

11 September 1965

The Director  
H W Wilson Company  
950 University Avenue  
New York, N Y

Dear Sir,

The assassination of President Kennedy, an immense incomprehensible tragedy, is commanding the attention of scholars from many disciplines, whose numbers will grow with the passage of time. The Warren Commission, in its Report and twenty-six volumes of Hearings and Exhibits, has provided researchers with an enormous body of data, perhaps unprecedented in the annals of fact-finding. It is undeniable, however, that the value of these reference works is greatly impaired by the lack of a subject index which can be used to trace readily all relevant information on any single aspect of the investigation.

My own experience in using the Hearings and Exhibits volumes was one of frustration and considerable loss of time. This led me to prepare notes which ultimately evolved into a detailed comprehensive subject index. A number of scholars and centers of learning have indicated the belief that the index is a necessity and would be of great value to contemporary and future students of the assassination. I am convinced, from experience, that such a tool is indispensable to the historian and researcher, because of the great complexity and profusion of the source data.

The Council on Library Resources at Washington, D.C., has been good enough to suggest that I should contact the H.W. Wilson Company with a view to the publication of my index, which the Council believes has commercial value. I am therefore taking the liberty of enclosing herewith a list of the contents. The index provides references under each item listed to relevant material in each of the twenty-six volumes, seriatim. The citations encompass but extend substantially beyond the footnotes in the Report, where the subject in the index corresponds; the index includes, in addition, numerous subjects which are not specifically identified in the Report or not covered at all.

If you wish, I should be glad to provide further details or to discuss possible arrangements.

Yours sincerely,

Sylvia Meagher

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