

28 October 1979

Dear Gary,

Progress report: I have finished and sent to Paul for xerexing Vol. VII Hearings and Volume VIII Acoustics. I have also revised the index to Volume VII, integrating ballistics evidence with medical and autopsy. I have also revised the Volume XI index (Warren Commission) inserting entries for members and staff of the HSCA for the executive hearings of the Warren Commission staff lawyers.

Still to be indexed by me: Legislative and Administrative Reform Hearings (on order but not yet received) and Appendix.

I am beginning to think about an explanatory note and a title for our opus. Enclosed is a first draft, with portions of the text to be provided by you. I would of course appreciate any criticisms, comments suggestions and additions you may wish to make. I would like this explanatory note to be as informative but as brief as possible.

I will soon draft a Foreword, which I will also send you for suggestions and any additions you want made.

I think that in terms of human labor, we can surely be finished by the end of the year. The only "unknown" is the accessibility of the equipment you will use to prepare the consolidated subject and name indexes and the amount of time that work will consume. Our contract (I have not yet received it, possibly because of a major breakdown in our post office automation system) will give the deadline of 31 January 1980 and I would like to meet it or even beat it, so that the finished work can become available fairly early in 1980. Scarecrew took a whole year to produce the Subject Index in 1966 but I devoutly hope that they can produce this one very much faster.

Scarecrew did not offer us an advance on acceptance of the work for publication but I reminded them that I did get an advance for the Subject Index in 1965 and asked for \$500, to be split between us on a 60/40 basis. I was told that this would have to be taken up with the owner but I got the impression that it did not present real difficulty.

I think this is all my news for the moment.

Best regards,