27 November 1979

Dear Gary,

Thanks for your letter of the 19th, which arrived yesterday. It took a week to get here probably because of the breakdown at our main post office installation, which is still not entirely repaired.

I think your mock-up for the name index is just fine. Don't forget, when you get to the typing-up, it must be in double space. I am very glad that you agree to have only three types of symbol ("R", "I", "II", and L/A I and II). And I agree that the explanatory paragraphs for your sections should be done later, perhaps only when the amalgamation is complete so that no important points will escape. I also agree that Oswald and Ruby should go into the "Subject" section, but you might list them in the name section as "Oswald, Lee Harvey: See Subject Index pages 000-000". I also agree to your plan to group as much as possible under major headings such as acoustics and autopsy, with sub-items such as sirens listed separately but cross-referenced to the major headings.

I have just returned from having the "key to names" xeroxed. It runs to 50-odd pages and includes 38 categories. I did not attempt to include every name that appears in the individual indexes but only those which fit into the 38 categories.

A lucky phone-call to Paul Hoch has saved me from a difficult and unnecessary job. I was going to prepare a list of all the HSCA Exhibits (based on the list I did before the Report came out) but Paul pointed out that a complete list of the Exhibits is included in the Report itself, pages 574-583. This leaves us with three possibilities: (1) to ignore the question of exhibits (2) to indicate in the Explanatory Note that a complete list of Exhibits can be found in the Report (3) to copy the list out of the Report and include it after the key to names in our work. What do you think? I cannot get over my carelessness in failing to remember that the Report contained this list of Exhibits. When I looked at it I remembered that I had seen it before, but then it flew out of my mind completely.

Now that I am more or less finished with my part of the work, is there anything I can do to help you? I can do some typing if you find that things are getting tight.

All the best,