

May 24, 1977

Dear Sylvia,

Thanks for your note of 4/20. Things are going nicely here; Beth is keeping us both busy (and happy).

You might be interested in the enclosed 11/23/63 version of the Warren Report, which the Secret Service released to Mark Lane recently. Lane called attention mainly to the paragraph on page 5 about Mexico; I don't think one can conclude that there was in fact an Oswald impostor from this evidence, since the reporting on this matter has always been confused. (It is interesting that the FBI was telling the SS, in effect, that there had been an impostor.) (If you want, I can send you my detailed notes on this Mexico paragraph, but I don't think we end up with anything really solid.) Sprague seems to have taken this very seriously, ~~xxxx~~ especially since the CIA told him that they routinely erased a tape of Oswald before the assassination. I don't think Sprague understands that (even if the tape ~~xx~~ played on 11/22-23 was Oswald or "Oswald") the CIA quite clearly had more than one tape ~~xx~~ relating to the Mexico ~~x~~ visits.

David Lifton pointed out to me that this document bears close analysis not just as a very early version of the Warren Report, but as a reaction to the events of the day before it was written. (That is, it pays to try to forget that the Warren Report version was going to come out later, which the FBI presumably didn't know at the time.) There are quite a few oddities; since you are really the expert on the basic case as it developed, I'm sending it on to you.

I got a not-very-helpful visit from a team of House Committee people last week; they were interested in my suggestions for northern California witnesses! They did nothing to change my previous opinions of how the Committee is going. They did speak highly of your work. So, I am told, did Cliff Fenton, the head investigator on the JFK case; however, the other 2 books he recommended are those by Lane and Gary Shaw!

Some AIB people are trying to establish a discreet contact with certain sympathetic staff people who are concerned about the way the Committee's work is going. The AIB wants to steer them into maintaining contacts with the responsible critics (as opposed to the most vocal ones). You might be hearing ~~xxx~~ more about this soon.

Sincerely,

*Paul*

PLH

OVER for FBI cover letter to SS.

*FBI report filed  
in Docs - MSS*