

February 7, 1979

Dear Sylvia,

Here's the investigative plan I put together for Jeff. I would like your ideas on additions, omissions, or overall changes, and of course I hope you can sign up to tackle a few areas.

With best regards,

Paul

PLH

AN INVESTIGATIVE PLAN

(WHAT TO DO WHEN THE HSC REPORT AND VOLUMES ARE RELEASED)

Paul L. Hoch
28 January 1979

[The topics in part I are keyed to the summary report of 3 January 1979, as indicated.]

- [I.A] (Identity of the TSBD gunman)
1. Medical evidence - direction of shots [A.1]
 2. - circumstances of the autopsy [A.1]
 3. Source of the shots - tracing the trajectories back [A.2]
 4. - sniper's nest evidence "
 5. Use of LHO's rifle - ballistics. [A.3]
 6. - neutron activation analysis "
 7. - LHO's ownership of rifle, it's transport & discovery, etc. "
 8. Oswald on the 6th floor - photo evidence (Altgens/Lovelady, Bronson, etc.) [A.4]
 9. - Givens, alibi witnesses, etc. "
 10. Oswald's other actions - Walker shooting [A.5]
 11. - Nixon incident "
 12. - Tippit "
 13. - LHO's flight / DPD suspicions / arrest "
 14. - Backyard photos "
 15. - Marina's testimony (re motive, etc.) "
- [I.B] (Conspiracy allegations)
16. Acoustics analysis [B.1]
 17. Other evidence re gunman on knoll (head snap, photos, etc.) [B.2]
 18. Allegations rebuttable by technical evidence - (Milteer, gunman photos, etc.) "
 19. - (Two-Oswald theories) "
- [I.C] (Identity of conspirators)
20. USSR - Nosenko [C.1]
 21. - Oswald in the USSR "
 22. Cuba - foreknowledge by Castro [C.2]
 23. - the AMLASH connection "
 24. - misc. allegations (Garro, etc.) "
 25. Anti-Castro Cubans - Veciana connection [C.3]
 26. - Odio incident "
 27. - other individuals and organizations "
 28. Organized crime - Ruby - McWillie - Trafficante - Aleman [C.4]
 29. - Oswald - Ferrie - Murrett - Marcello (- Hoffa?) "
 30. - Ruby: background and connections "
 31. entry into basement "
 32. Agency involvement in ass'n / Oswald and the agencies: Secret Service [C.5]
 33. FBI "
 34. CIA "
 35. Other agencies: ONI, Army, ATF, etc. "
 36. Other Oswald associates (White Russians, etc.)
- [I.D] (Performance of the agencies, pre- and post-ass'n)
37. Secret Service [D.1]
 38. Justice Department (Katzenbach vs. Helms on Nosenko, etc.) [D.2]
 39. FBI - pre-assassination inv'n of LHO (and Security Index issue) [D.3]
 40. - post-ass'n inv'n (of LHO, of conspiracy; liaison failures) "
 41. CIA - pre-ass'n - Oswald in Mexico [D.4]
 42. - other (including mail intercepts) "
 43. - post-ass'n - plots against Castro "
 44. - the 1967 Morgan - Roselli - Maheu flap "
 45. - other matters "
 46. Warren Commission - quality of investigation / presentation of conclusions [D.5]
 47. - question of good faith / use of staff testimony (Griffin) "
 48. HSC recommendations - political implications

[Part II deals with various factual, organizational, and historical points. After others have added to this list, we can put these points in more logical order.]

- *49. Other key points raised by critics (at the conference, etc.)
 - 50. Allegations which got lots of publicity in the HSC's early days (E.g., Morrow)
 - 51. Allegations mentioned in the early HSC reports
 - 52. Other matters in the public hearings / handouts
 - 53. Use of the public hearing witnesses
 - 54. (Including: who lied, and who got caught doing it)
- Documents we should get, or create:
- *55. List of depositions taken but not published (Try to get them!)
 - *56. Witnesses not deposed or interviewed
 - 57. Chronological study - what the HSC did, and when
 - 58. Name indexes to selected parts of the volumes
 - *59. The HSC's investigative plan
 - *60. Topics slighted because of the way teams were defined (DPD?)
 - 61. HSC use of / contacts with critics
 - *62. Material left out of the volumes
 - 63. (Including - anything subject to FOIA?)
 - 64. Security deletions, omissions, editing
 - 65. Internal dissent in the HSC
 - 66. Availability of HSC internal files (executive sessions, etc.)
 - 67. Organization of the HSC
 - 68. Use of the panels and other consultants
 - 69. Use of already released FBI, CIA, WC files
 - 70. Use of previously suppressed documentation
 - 71. Followup on work of previous investigations (Schweiker, Edwards, Abzug, etc.)

Our objectives:

- A. Provide research support for already-sympathetic news people
- B. Try to preclude press response like that to the FBI's 100,000-page media event - that is, discourage people from being overwhelmed by the sheer bulk of the evidence in areas where the HSC claims no conspiracy
- C. Influence debate inside the Justice Department and in Congress (if any!)
- D. Provide prompt distribution of critical analyses, and reduce overlap

Things to do before the volumes are released:

- 1. Contact sympathetic press
- 2. Refresh contacts with sympathetic HSC sources
- 3. Make tentative assignments of topics for research
- 4. Coordination: by phone, right after the release - Policoff?
by mail, for distribution of written material: AIB/Bud in D.C.,
and PLH (Xeroxing for researchers and other AIB constituents)
- 5. Try to get copies of panel reports, etc. in advance; arrange for expert review

P.S.

This isn't much of an investigative plan - I don't think Rep. Edgar would approve - but I haven't seen anything better yet, so I'll send it around as a starting point for discussions.

PLH

