

Saturday, February 1, 1986

Dear Paul,

You must feel that it is raining envelopes from Meagher. I just received your letter of January 27th and want to give you some additional information on the story in the N.Y. Times on the Hoover-Warren split.

On October 31st, 1985, I received a phone-call from a stranger who introduced himself as Alex Charns, a free-lance writer, from Durham, N.C. Charns told me that he had acquired, under the FOIA, some 3,000 pages of the FBI file on Earl Warren. He said that the most interesting documents were on the relationship between Hoover and Warren in the early 1950's, when Warren had some kind of favored status with Hoover. Warren would request, and Hoover would supply, dirt on Warren's political opponents and even on his daughter's boy-friends. Another document which struck him was one that indicated that Warren and Hoover had had lunch together on the day before Hoover testified before the Warren Commission.

Charns wanted my opinion on the relationship between Hoover and the WC during its "investigation" of the assassination, and I filled him in on that as best I could. I also steered him to the book Framup by Curt Gentry, which describes Warren's effort, when he was Attorney-General of California, to suppress the fact that the State had framed two labor leaders for a bombing of which they were innocent but for which they served some 20 years in prison.

Charns wanted to write a major story for the Washington Post (which turned him down) or some other newspaper or magazine. He was in fact the author of the story that appeared in the N.Y. Times in such a truncated form that it made little sense. Charns subsequently sent me a fuller version of the story that had appeared in the Durham Morning Herald. I am enclosing that story and Charns' letter to me dated December 2, 1985, both of which should be returned to me when you have read (and if you wish, copied) them.

Turning to my memorandum on Admiral Burkley, submitted to the HSCA: I should have explained on the phone that this memo was drafted jointly by Roger Feinman and myself, but neither one of us has been able to find a copy in our files. I would like to make a copy available to Roger and of course I would like one for myself. You suggested that you want to circulate copies to a few people, which is okay with me --but Roger is wondering, to whom and for what purpose?

I am sorry to add to your workload but there is no hurry about any of this.

Best regards,