



## Court of Appeal

### FOURTH CIRCUIT STATE OF LOUISIANA

210 CIVIL COURTS BUILDING  
421 LOYOLA AVENUE  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70112

WILLIAM V. REDMANN  
CHIEF JUDGE

JAMES C. GULOTTA  
PATRICK M. SCHOTT  
JIM GARRISON  
DENIS A. BARRY  
ROBERT J. KLEES  
WILLIAM H. BYRNES, III  
PHILIP C. CIACCIO  
ROBERT L. LOBRANO  
CHARLES R. WARD  
DAVID R. M. WILLIAMS  
JOAN BERNARD ARMSTRONG

JUDGES

DANIELLE A. SCHOTT  
CLERK OF COURT

April 14, 1986

Mr. Ted Gandolfo  
1214 First Avenue  
New York, New York 10021

Dear Ted:

Thank you for your letter of April 9th, enclosing part of Paul Hoch's recent newsletter.

I have nothing to say concerning his comments about me. Frankly, I found them to be incoherent.

I cannot guess as to the origin of his emotional hang up about me. In any case, I will not attempt to reply to him in a similar vein. I have read some of his research on President Kennedy's assassination and have found it to be quite competent. Moreover -- in view of the solid front presented by the federal government in its cover-up of the assassination -- it seems to me childlike for one assassination critic to attempt to dis-credit another publicly.

One statement of Hoch's, however, does concern me enough to require a comment. He refers to the "vulnerability of Clay Shaw due to his apparently irrelevant C.I.A. links and homosexuality." Mr. Hoch should go straight to the bathroom and wash his mouth with soap.

Throughout our trial, in everything I have ever written and in every public statement I have ever made -- I never once have made any reference to Clay Shaw's alleged homosexuality. What sort of human being is Mr. Hoch that he is impelled to so gratuitously make such a reference in a newsletter which he widely distributes to the public? For all his faults or virtues, Shaw is dead and unable to defend himself from that kind of off the wall canard. No matter how virtuously Hoch might couch it, a smear is still a smear.

Sincerely,