

February 20, 1972

RUY LOPEZ -EXCHANGE VARIATION

Dear Vincent

Thanks for the promptness of your reply to my letter asking questions about your Cambridge, Mass. speech in October 1971 to the Women's International League For Peace And Freedom on the assassination of President Kennedy. Thanks, too, for the invitation to write to you "in detail" about my theory of the assassination in order to give you the opportunity "to respond with a series of questions" to me. It appears you believe what's sauce for the goose...Or you fence or play chess.

But, friend, you set me a bad example. You made a public speech expounding your "model" of the assassination. You did not have sufficient time to develop it adequately; your allotted time was thrice extended. Yet it will be your "last public statement" on the subject. Future pronouncements "on the issue" will most likely take the form of a book. But you will not discuss your idea of the assassination with me in writing. You did not answer a single one of my questions.

I suppose I am too ambitious. I would examine ideas, probe minds, influence thought. ^UBut I have no luck. Some years ago I put questions to Dwight Macdonald about the "hard evidence" which convinced him the findings of the Warren Commission were sound. He ignored me. Later I put questions to Hoch about his

collaboration with Alvarez in ridiculous ballistic experiments on honeydew melons. He was sure "if we lived close enough to each other...we could have a long and profitable discussion," but "for the time being" he had to restrict himself to acknowledging" my "thought-provoking" letter. That was in January 1971. I am still waiting. Now you! The melancholy record builds. You held out the hope "perhaps some day in the near future we can talk about" my questions. I am willing. When?

In the meantime you want to know my views. But you should know what I think. I recall a meeting in Philadelphia years ago at which we both spoke, you on problems of physical evidence, I on political aspects of the assassination. I have not recanted or revised the ideas I expressed on that occasion. Besides I have sent you copies from time to time over the last eight years of the pieces I wrote on the assassination in which I developed views on the motivation and source of the assassination. The conclusion of my last letter to you includes the gist of my ideas. Preceding pages contain supportive material.

Ask me any questions you like. As many as you wish. Ask away.

Fraternally

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