

1/23/71

Dear Jim (PE, GRS, HR, RE, SM, EH)

Your list of declassified CDs is ever so much more helpful than that supplied by the Archives and can mean things to others that the official list cannot. If you can have copies for Sylvia, Paul, Gary, Howard, Bernabei and Emory Brown I know they would like it. Emory has asked for copies of the official list and I haven't sent thinking this would be much better, as it is. However, it is not complete, not including, as your notes might, CDs 273, 805, 1373, 1528b. Also interesting is the fact that although by the time you had a chance to go there, and when they expected me, they did not give you all of what had by then been declassified (the second pair of lists I gave you), restricting themselves to the first list only. Not a single CD from the second was included.

I'm not very sharp right now. The reason I laid the legal work aside is because of tiredness, and for that I want to be more alert. So, I scanned and checked this.

From this casual examination, three things seem clear:

- The listing indicates no apparent reason for some of this stuff never to have been withheld;
- The listing also indicates stuff that should not now be released because of its nature, including medical and personal reasons (and again I wonder why?);
- There was, by CD rather than by volume, hence by subject, much more withheld to begin with on LHO's Mexican trip than on anything else. Without an actual count I can't be sure, but it strikes me that there was more withheld on this than on all other subjects combined, which again makes me wonder why?

There is a faintly familiar suggestion to some of the Latin names, but I have no real reason to believe I have anything on any of them. Some of this is consistent with what we know from unofficial sources, like the transfer of money to LHO in Mexico. In this connection, your notes do not show it, but does CD955 have any mention of one Arnold Lewis Kessler?

You are now too busy to do this with the second list, but I think it could be very helpful if Bob did, gave it the circulation indicated above, so that there could be an immediate feedback on familiar names or on those of which these people may know anything. I think if copies are sent, they should be accompanied with this request. There is one no longer active and not on this list to whom I will write about three where I think he may have something.

CD565, right in the middle of Mexico stuff, is about one Victor Cohen Charaff. Does it mention one Howard Cohen?

Again green and white as color of LHO car (665). I think CD854 is in WWII or 0 in NO. One, I'm not taking time to check, refers to John White and Mexico. If this is by plane, I'd be rather interested, for I have something I'd not credited not from official files that could relate. Of course, eventually I'll be going over all of it, and I think, off the top of my head, that maybe I should with a tape recorder at hand, and will know then.

If Bob can't do this, I think he should try and get one of the students to do it. And unless one of us will have time to go over the individual-page list, that should be next, so others can check names.

Thanks,
HW