

10/7/72

Mr. Clark Mollenhoff
The Des Moines Register
National Press Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Clark,

Glad to see you are back swinging. And as before, professionally and effectively.

I can't help you on the financing end of the Watergate whitewash except with a suggestion, checking out the new and Corrupt Practices Act reportings on the Republican Cuban Committees. One, called, approximately, Cuban-Americans for Nixon Agnew, was active in the last campaign and was made up of pretty farout types who would have considered this caper the pinnacle of patriotism.

Some of these nut Cubans have compelled my interest in them. Thus I can tell you that some of these figured in the JFK assassination investigation. About a dozen FBI reports on them are available at the Archives. If this interests you, you can get it faster from them than from me and they xeroxes will be clearer. They have files on Fiorini and Miguel Suarez, Barker's associate. You will notice no reference to Fiorini's past in what was given to the Warren Commission or to the Bay of Pigs. You may or may not agree with my view, that these are a fair sample of the inadequacy of FBI reporting in political cases. Should you want these (and I'd suggest you ask for all the Cuban names), it is fastest to call 963-4092, the number of that archive at the Archives.

I don't think these Cubans were involved because Cuba or Cuba policy is. They have more than Bay of Pigs and CIA past in common. All are a trained military cadre, and I mean more than Bay of Pigs training. Those not in command positions in that operation had later U.S. military training at Ft. Jackson.

If Hunt interests you, perhaps I can be of help. The fact I have I have not had the facilities for carrying forward. I have done much thinking about him and have developed a few theories. I have asked Ken Clawson for some public information under the Freedom of Information Act but have not had even acknowledgement of the request. In his CIA days Hunt spent some years in Mexico with a State cover (one he also used elsewhere). He also seems to have been engaged in what is theoretically illegal, domestic intelligence, with a literary agency cover. He was not a mere writer for Mullen but was a director and vice president. And his connection with Mullen continued after his firing was announced. This is the one thing on which I must preserve confidence, but I am, frankly, surprised that reporters haven't learned this on their own from published leads. I have it confirmed.

Mullen admits to one CIA contract that dovetails with Hunt's Cuban past. They admit to one recent government contract, with an explanation of Hunt's role that doesn't make sense. My requests of Clawson are for the days of Hunt's employment at the White House after March 29 and for all Mullen's government contracts. Under the law, if he is not the right person to whom to address the questions, he is required to forward them.

I agree with your focus on Hunt as other reporters have not. I believe he was the man in immediate charge not only from his past but from something that goes back to my own experience in intelligence. All the aliases were selected so that he could remember them. The boss has that need.

I have other Cuban files that may or may not be relevant, should they interest you. I am generally home but will be away this coming week. Until then, for brief periods only. Thanks for the good work! Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg