Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701
1/4/74

Dear Bob,

Thanks for your letter of the 19th, which you didn't mail until the 27th.

As of now there are only two wholesalers who have any copies of the new book and I don't know of a single copy either has put out. In NYC and in DC.

So, I'd welcome distribution.

I'm disappointed that Rolling Stone has had no interest in ancillary rights. By now the topicality ought be fairly obvious.

I suspect that they are rather pissed off at me. All editors come to believe they understand all there is to be understood and all are of the best intentions. They do not welcome forthrightness or criticism.

Because it is about a week since you expected to see Wenner and I've heard nothing from him I take it I have his answer.

Before we had the book ready, Jon Newhall of Zodiac News spoke to peoplem at Rolling Stone to see if they would distribute and to try to interest them in ancillary uses. He got nowhere. And that was when they'd have had an exclusive on what was page one throughout the world - even before the current CIA flap to which it is and will remain so relevant.

This means they would now have to tell themselves their judgement was bad. In my experience people, especially young and dedicated people, do not do anything like this easily.

However, if they are hungup on me, Lesar's part would lend itself to ready condensation and is topical and new. It has not been mentioned anywhere.

Rolling Stone could have had an exclusive on CIA and domestic intelligence months ago but they were unresponsive. When they were I incorporated what was pertinent in the draft of my Watergate book. It has much that has not come out yet. Kinds of spooking not even indicated yet, simple, indirect and an effective impediment to the first amendment.

I'm sorry things are this way.

But thanks for your willingness and your efforts.

I look forward to your piece.

If you've seen what Ron Kessler wrote on the RFK new developments, I'd appreciate your opinions.

Hope you have a good year.

Best regards,