August 19, 1969

Dear Paul,

Thanks for your letter of August 17, and its enclosures. Your cataloguing of those files will help deciding what to order, if anything. In terms of immediate interests, I feel that I have been through those files and have everything of interest or notes on it that I need, but after prelims when I can get immersed in this work again, that may change.

Dave did and does have my permission to go through that archives order. I almost didn't grant it because of his incredible pumping and his ceaseless attempts to make me feel that I had to give him anything I had. My basic feeling is that every researcher should have the basic stuff available to him, although I can understand when researchers, especially those who are in the process of writing books, keep something to themselves. I must admit that if Dave really made his big discovery back in 1965, it is a shame that the rest of us have not had access to it yet, and may not for another 6 months to a year, especially if it is an important item. My basic feeling is that Dave should have access to the general run of archives work, despite the fact that he will probably not give credit for it, and despite the fact that he has done very little in the archives (despite his claims) judging from our discussions and correspondence, even in some of the areas in which he has said he has great interest, and despite the fact that he has not done much in the way of making his research available. As I told Dave on the phone, I would like, despite our differences, to help him in any way I can--I think that every serious researcher should have this attitude towards a developing book, because each book is taken as a statement by the critics, rather than just the work of one critic. The better each book is the further along we all are in the public relations domain and in applying pressure to the government.

Agreed on the difficulty in exhanging info by mail. You had a good effect on Rich and he is more interested than ever in pursuing work on the assassination. He is a good man and quite dependable and apparently does a good job of picking up info. Bear in mind that his reading on the assassination pretty much started in ernest during my trip to Cornell, which wasn't too long ago.

Marion Johnson told me that the FPCC file was not ready last Christmas (27th I think) but I don't have it in writing. While it is far easier and more satisfying to confront those bastards face to face, one never has a record.

ON LHO's income taxes, it is interesting to note that the document came from the FBI (with a Hoover memo, not the IRS. The same was true, I think, for the Paines. I have an analysis of the income tax return thing on cards, if and when I can find it, which I did when I catalogued the titles, dgents, agencies, and cities of the classified documents and began on the declassified documents.

Did I send you the Crafard preliminary memo? If not I will. This Fall we are going all out on Crafard--something which should have been done a long time ago. British sources suggest that Joesten has nothing more on Crafard than he published.

In your letter to Harold you mention a list from the archives of CD's withheld--I don't have that The Powell photo is not available, and Powell is not to be found by either Sprague or I. Marion Johnson showed me their"photo file" so I could check it, but I found that it was a fake of some sort or he was lying, because they have photos which were not in there. I should have done a memo on this--Hal was there, and I told Harold about it. It was clearcut depeption on Johnson's part. Could you send me the pages from Penthouse please? After prelims, and Dallas in October, I expect to begin doing notes on the archives which I should have done a long time ago. Then perhaps some of the strange pages I ordered will make more sense. Best wishes.

cc. Harold

Larry