

Mrs. Katharine Graham, Publisher
Washington Post
1150 15 St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

Rt. 12. Frederick, Md. 21701
11/15/76

Dear Mrs. Graham,

In the weeks since I received your card telling me I'd be hearing from Charles Seib I have heard silence. Until this weekend. That of which I wrote and this weekend's story on the Hoover memo are both disinformation operations by and involving the Post. If I thought for a minute that this is your intent I'd not be taking the time to write.

I am aware of the competitive situation when a paper like the Post is fed a leak like this weekend's story. After it was out I did make an effort to be of help to the Post. I do not regard it as an exaggeration to say that I tried to keep the Post ~~from being~~ ^{from being} ~~shown~~ a government whore.

Obviously if you do not go for the leak somebody else will. Equally obviously I have not been in touch with your competition.

I was in Wisconsin conducting a week of seminars at a university. It was not possible for me to phone once I heard of your piece Saturday. I asked another to do it and to ask for your national desk. This person was greeted with total indifference and I believe it is not unfair to say arrogance. With that kind of story he was also told to call back Monday, today.

This morning, from home, I did phone. Not that the call could have made any difference with the obvious purposes of the leakers having been accomplished. The purpose is an exact duplication of what the FBI did to the Warren Commission - Hoover then in person - this time aimed at the new House committee, whose first meeting was this morning. It is now about 3:30 and there has not been the promised callback. I'll not call again.

I'm sorry I forgot to identify the story. It is headed "Oswald Reportedly 'old Cubans of Plan to Kill JFK."

This is impossible, as anyone qualified to work for you should know.

Your people know me well and many of them dislike me as much, largely because I hold up a journalistic mirror into which they do not like to look. You will not find anyone in your employ who will say to my face that I ever misrepresented or was inaccurate. Yet from the story there was no checking with any except an official source. Of the official and formerly official sources cited your people managed to avoid the right ones. Of these the best example is your call to David Belin. This was not his area or work or responsibility on the Warren Commission. I'd be delighted to take time for you on his work on the Rockefeller Commission but it here is not the question. Belin had nothing to do with this but William T. Coleman did, assisted by David Slawson. When I last heard of him Slawson was a law professor at USC. Your people know where Coleman is. All of this wretched business is not unknown to Coleman and Slawson, as my own files show over their names, except for what is still suppressed.

If your information comes from the Post you will know nothing about my credentials. The Department of Justice has certified to a federal court in Washington that I know more about the JFK assassination and the FBI's investigation of it (so-called) than anyone in the FBI. The D.C. federal court of appeals stated in a 7/7/76 decision that what I seek to do serves the nation's interest. Naturally, judge by the journalistic standards of the Saturday story neither is news in any sense. To today's Post only the impossible, only that which on this subject makes it the running dog of errant officialdom, is news. So I'm not surprised that I was not phoned on this. If I had been you'd not have carried this story.

Sincerely,
Harold Eidelberg