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Mr. Max Ascoli
The Reporter
630 Madison Ave.,
New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Mr. Ascoli,

The preface of this book explains the use of the unusual form. After 15 months I had no acceptable alternative. It is my hope that the contents of the book will attract enough attention to overcome the fears of perhaps one of those publishers who have already read it or the interest of one of the ~~star~~ few who haven't.

If, after reading it - as I hope you will - you have any questions, please ask me.

You will note the book focuses on the Report and the staff, not the Commission or its members. It is not unfair to include the FBI in the staff, for it provided most of the investigations and scientific services. Among the data about the FBI that you will find throughout the book, you may find that in the Postscript of most interest.

We are without funds or income and in debt, further in debt for this printing, which cannot possibly show a profit. If you find the book as interesting and worthwhile as the others who have read it, is it possible for you to help us with our now non-existent advertising program? I am having to write these letters in advance in order to have them ready, but anticipate no bolt from the blue. What I have in mind is either a system ~~to~~ what in radio is known as "pay inquiry," whereby you get paid for each order, or for you to sell the book and make the bookstore profit.

If there is any ~~other~~ suggestion you can make, about public relations, advertising, distribution or anything else, we will certainly appreciate it. As of this moment, no distribution has been arranged. One large Washington bookstore will attempt to interest several of those from whom it buys.

There is but a single explicit conclusion in the book, that the job has not been done and must be, entirely in public and preferably by Congress. I hope you will find yourself in accord and will editorially join in the demand. You will, I am confident, reach other conclusions from the evidence, and I sincerely hope you will also act on them.

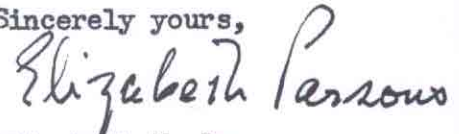
Sincerely,

May 13, 1966

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

In the absence of Mr. Ascoli, who is abroad, I want to thank you for your letter and the copy of your book. I shall of course bring them to his attention as soon as he returns to the office next month.

Sincerely yours,



Elizabeth H. Parsons
Assistant to the Editor