

November 12, 1969

Dear Harold,

Just got your mailing of November 9. First, some bad news about the Davison business. I had given Sylvia some of my material in strictest confidence, thinking that she would be likely to contribute information or analysis, in part based on her special interest in LHO and the State Dept. while in Moscow. She has just written to me that the Davison item has been published in Joesten's newsletter, attributed to Masterman.

Masterman did get this from me, as follows: just after Jim S. pointed this item out to me, and (I think) before I did any research or analysis at all, I was writing Masterman on the subject of the deletion of Hosty's name from the notebook. (This was September 21.) I added: "Incidental goodie from the notebook; the address of Mrs. Hal Davison, "mother of U.S. Embassy doctor," is listed (16H50); it turns out that Davison (Alexis H.) was not only a doctor but an air attaché and charged by the Russians with involvement in the Penkovsky affair. (See The Invisible Government)"

Of course, Masterman didn't ask my permission to give this to Joesten. Needless to say, I wouldn't have given it, nor would I have mentioned this to Masterman or the like after you pointed out the need for security - which which I do agree, except that no one of us should have any information from non-public sources which no-one else has. I realize this is a dirty business, but nobody is going to go around picking up copies of volume 16 or Wise & Ross. I've certainly learned a lot about Masterman's judgement, and mea maxima culpa, but that is spilt milk over the dam.

What should be done? I haven't seen the newsletter, but I would be very surprised if either Masterman or Joesten did any research at all. So, perhaps little damage has been done - after all, Davison has been "alerted" for a long time. I expect that the CIA and nobody else reads the newsletter. The only possible action I can see is trying to hide my interest in this, and most significantly yours, since you are carrying it further. I could write Masterman and indicate that he shouldn't have used this without checking it, and say that my check of Archives documents proves that Davison did examine Marina and gave the FBI a plausible explanation of the notebook item; hence I am convinced that the entry is innocent. I should emphasize that Masterman can say whatever he wants about the notebook, but he should definitely not use my name as a credit since I don't agree. (I might ask if he has given anyone my name in this connection.) Such a letter might be sent to Joesten also, which would assure that it would reach the intended recipients. Anyone who knows my work would find such an attitude plausible; as you know, I rarely agree fully with your interpretations, on this particular item as well as many others. It is quite possible that the Davison entry is completely innocent; but I do agree that it should be checked out.

Unless you advise otherwise, I will not write any such letters. Mea culpa again.

Thanks for the London Times and other clippings. I am taking the liberty of keeping the originals, in case I need further copies, and returning 2 copies to you, 1 to Gary.

Further Davison sources: I do not know of any other books on the case, beyond the two described in my earlier memo. The Russian trial transcript may have been published in English; it is not in the Library here and the Library of Congress might be the only place to go. I would be very surprised if there was anything on Davison's other activities presented at the trial; if anything, this would be in the early articles which reportedly played up Davison's role. (I enclose a copy of the two Pravda articles, which I have not yet been able to get translated; GRS also.) ... Kelley's 12/9 MR probably should be looked for by hand at the Archives, starting in CD 87, since we have no other information.... Also, CD 1114-5, the State files, and perhaps ONI again, for any references to Davison. Check under Air Force, too, just in case. I don't know that they sent the Commission anything, but it's worth a try. Also has to be done in D.C. ... My interest in checking on Davison Sr. was to get names, occupations, etc. of the son(s), and political/

social background on Mrs. D., which would probably be in the Atlanta papers at the time of Mr. D's death.... The Directory listing I quoted on Dr. Alexis gave only his name, but I am told that there is a directory for each medical specialty which generally gives a short biography. I would have difficulty finding this; it should be easy for Gary, so I'll pass the buck.

There is no possibility of checking old (1958) Charlottesville telephone directories out here. If Davison was a student or intern I would not expect him to be listed as a doctor anyhow. What was the CIA installation there? By any chance Specialties, Inc., a company of generally mysterious function - at least to me when I played on their little league team? I was in Charlottesville from 1950 to 1960; my mother was in Pathology at U. Va. I asked her about Davison, and the name rang a bell, but nothing definite. I indicated this was WR-related, but no more. I indicated that you might want to call her; perhaps you could refresh her memory or get onto sources (written or otherwise) that may be useful. (My parents have heard you on the radio; so it would be okay to call; they are Drs. Hans and Cornelia Hoch, in Shepherdstown, W. Va.; 304-876-6720.) I'll let you pursue this if you wish; I won't.

In case I haven't mentioned it, Alexis is in internal medicine.

Now the good news. The latest addition in the commercial Xerox field here is the Model 7000, with slightly improved quality compared even to the 3600, and reducing lenses. This means that up to 8 x 14" can be copied onto an 8 x 11 or 8 x 14 sheet. In particular, you can get two legal size pages onto one legal or letter size page. The cost is 3¢ per exposure (1.5¢ a page), with 10% off on orders over \$1 (probably), plus 5% tax. The reduced copy is quite legible if the original is good; sample ~~(from a rather average original)~~ enclosed.

Your memo on SS 449 : I think my copy of this came from the FPCC file.... What evidence can be cited for the "official awareness of that address"? (I am not questioning that it existed, but have no solid proof myself.) ... As you anticipated, I might take issue with your interpretation on p. 4, especially references to pre-11/22 investigation.... Has anyone talked to Dyer?

My 544 Camp file was sent 10/27, 3rd class. If you (both) still don't have it I'll replace it.

My copy of p. 1 of Liebler 9/6/64 memo enclosed. From handwritten notations, it appears to have the same ultimate source as your copy (i.e. not a carbon). File identification may have been deleted for innocent reasons.

I will order Rowley 1/6 letter. (Ref.: CD 87 cover letter)

Copy of what you sent me on CD 75, p. 301 (withheld) enclosed. Was sent me 12/11/68.

Sincerely,

Paul

with
Liebler,
memo