

12 July 1973

Dear Harold:

Possibly Hunt's galleys support the inference that he knew RMN as of BofP time in 1961, but the UPI stories in the SF Chronicle, NY Times and WX Post, all on May 30, don't measure up to that. What they carry is a statement, merely attributed to Hunt's book, that he learned in the mid-60s that Nixon had been the White House's "action man" for the BofP project. If it can be done, the galleys should be checked to see what Hunt actually said.

If UPI is accurate, one can't infer from what the stories say that they knew each other in 1961. However, UPI may not be accurate or faithful to Hunt's words. And if UPI were, Hunt may have been covering their actual acquaintance dating back to 1961 for some reason. ~~XXXXXXXX~~

Personally, if Nixon had anything to do with BofP, it's ~~SEEM~~ doubtful that he would not have met Hunt at that time, it seems to me.

FYI, The Invisible Government, 3rd printing, has some of Nixon's campaign maneuvers in 1960 and subsequent attitudes on BofP in a most interesting passage, pages 338-347. He was furious, for instance, that JFK called for more support for the anti-castroites, mainly because he realized that Allen Dulles had briefed JFK on the pending BofP deal, and Nixon's attitude ~~was, that~~ ~~was, that~~ there would have been no such project if it hadn't been for his support for it. ~~XXX~~ Nixon attacked JFK for reckless advocating ~~of~~ breaking treaties, and JFK backed down somewhat.

Many thanks for the Hunt-Buckley dub. While returning five other tapes to you I'll enclose a blank 60-minutes cassette to replace the one you or Lesar used to make the dub. Again thanks.

jdw