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joe kraft, who is an egomaniacal stuffed shirt, bright but less so than he thinks, is wrong (1/13) in his comment on the effectiveness of the anderson column. he applies a pseudo-scholar's standard, not that of real-politick. it got more attention than it would have in Foreign Affairs or NYT or Wash Post as exclusives. he is right on the get-kissinger bit, and i hope it succeeds. he is the one brain, and it is dangerously sick. A story on laird, where he is right, in case i didn't tell you. a reporter friend stayed with a reporter friend in wash. before coming here on his way back to his cho desk. said DC friend was bending his elbow at a pary whan the drunken laird came up and introduced himself. reporter said only hi. laird said who he is, reppoter uhhuhhed only. liard said i have secrets. reporter unimpressed. military secrets. really? yes, really, important ones. don't believe you. Well, i do, and they are national security secrets, too, so, the reporter merely repeated that he did not believe, his aghast wife standing by, and challenged laird to prove it by telling him one. laird didn't blurt it out, he bragged it, the advance story on the withdrawal not yet announced from viet nam, the first if not the only leaked one. the difference between laird and his nincompoop predecessors is that they did it with purpose, he because he is unworthy of any attention, loves it as much as he doesn't deserve it, and seeks it in such ways. H

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you may remember that when i conceived the theory that de vosjoly may have been involved in the farewell america bit and its objectives and that it might have been a joint CIA- French inteligence operation. i asked lil to read TOPAZ and it was her belief it is consistent with this theory, which almost requires that dev. have been a double agent and a rightist paranoid. last night nbc aired the movie and i watched it. if one can accept it basic tenets, there remains little doubt of dev's CIA connections. if one adds the falsity of the story of the missle crisis and the exaggeration of the anti-castro propaganda, i believe it lends added credibility to the theory. why cia interest in such a scheme whose success could only be disasterous to critcs, garrison or both? i think the answer lies in what we do not know but may suspect about oswald, shaw or both. h

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s-i lattimer rewrite emerges as fiarest story i have seen except for one followup on which i backgrounded in advance. i expect what may please you and me more. he is crazy in every aspect, even the nagles of his drawing, where what he postulate is the nagle or less or an aggle than the official one. the commission's is not that of the chart he misused and does not understand. perhaps ignorances is one of the keys to this strange phenominon, the other sick politics. H

I have been sent copy of NYT 1/27 story on Chavez assassination project, no dont copy, Thanks. Best, HW

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