

6/29/72

Dear Jim,

Your 24 made such good time it beat your 23 here.

From the clips I've gotten in the past I'd assumed you get the LATimes. Knowing you do not, I'll be alert to Post stories I will not expect you to see via their service to it.

I met Hal Lipset once and there is no doubt he is more than a local expert. He is one of the top. But as I've earlier indicated, I think the emphasis on the amateurishness is misdirection and crazy thinking. None of the reporting I've seen, none of the comment, ever considered the nature of the operation, not have I seen any sign of any real inquiry calculated to learn it. Doing this would be difficult without inside help, which is unlikely. But asking questions about it isn't, and that hasn't been done. For example, if the equipment was being installed, what would have been required (if one is to assume that the Watergate rented living rooms were to be the base) would have been the presence there at the time of installation of a man with a receiver and a walkie-talkie plus a walkie-talkie in use in the Demo hg. Absence of this is certainly proof that a) there was no installation, that is, a removal; or the base was elsewhere. If the base was elsewhere, then the equipment being installed had to have greater range and dependability, more of an aerial, perhaps, long-lasting batteries (and here size is important, despite the so-called expert opinion, for all other things being equal, the larger the batteries the longer they can last. Greater range requires greater size and greater powers, meaning longer-lasting batteries, meaning replacement or bigger ones. When all the experts miss the obvious I think they were really using this large attention to a spontaneous self-advertising to tell all those wanting such services to hire one of them. From what has come out, their opinion are without basis.

El Bosom, as you so aptly term the Bozo, must figure in much of which we have no knowledge and having to do with \$\$\$\$\$. On something like this I believe he is too canny to be involved directly except by accident.

I just don't think it is possible to convey the unique mental process (apologies to normal humans) of these revanchist Cubans or, in general, those of the peculiar kinds of right-wingers who are attracted to intelligence. If I did not have personal experience with both, I'd not be able to credit what I now understand instinctively. I wish it had been possible to tape my interview with Augustin Guitart, Sylvia Odio's uncle and a professor of physics, into which his son intruded regularly, stupidly and with sincere paranoia. It would illustrate what I can't begin to. Despite their formal educations, by our standards they are at once infant and insane. They firmly believe what no kid could be conned into accepting. Their beliefs are like their faith. Thus it is that I have never known one of them to do anything well. Let me give you a mass illustration so you can begin to comprehend the point I'm trying to make: how could 1500 mature men think there was the slightest chance for military success at either the Bay of Pigs or the alternative landing place? This was their country. They know its terrain. They know two worse spots would have been hard to come by. If any one raised a question about it, I do not recall it. And if they didn't know, ask yourself how 1500 men, after all the internal bickering of which they knew and in which they participated, after the high-handed manner in which questioners and complainers were known to have been treated by the CIA, would dream of making any invasion without knowing more of the plans? They are this incompetent because of the way their minds work. They all work that way. Even the bright ones. And I know two who are very bright, one since off his rocker. And officially CIA. Frank B. Artés was a multi-millionaire in Cuba. Here he can't make a simple living, and he didn't have the foresight to get any of his loot out. He had plenty of time. He began with an inheritance. With the few who did not make it on luck or graft, this has to be the source of their wealth, someone gave it to them, they are that incredibly incompetent. So, they are capable of any crazy caper, capable of committing themselves into believing anything and thus undertaking the zaniest ventures without serious thought of its consequences or prospects. But none of this relates to the adequacy of the equipment, the nature of the operation or its auspices or purposes.... Because they are this kind, the committee I early suspected could be doing this on its own (revanchist) or at the instigation of others without really understanding they were being used. If you consider the connections already established of those at the top, the possibility of this being a lone-nut deal doesn't exist. Best, HW