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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM  
IDENTIFICATION FORM

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2 June 1999

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Hon. Charles A Briggs  
1752 Brookside Lane  
Vienna, Virginia 22182

Dear Chuck,

Your welcome phone call stirred a lot of dead (or almost dead) embers of memory. First, as I reflect on it, there was no complete record of all the documents that the Church Committee saw. I think that there would be records in transmittal letters of what was sent (in whatever records are left from Seymour Bolten's staff -- over which I held a temporary role while he was recovering from his heart attack).

My recollection (which can be in error) was that the different Church staffers who came out to the agency did their own thing their own way. When they wanted some document it was always sanitized and they carried it away. I can, on reflection, can think of instances when they saw paper in which I was involved.

Senator Baker (an attractive, talented and highly regarded legislator) did a hatchet job on CIA when he was Nixon's personal representative on Senator Ervin's Watergate Committee. He brought up from Tennessee a man who eventually became his successor, who did it. They published a "report" in early July 1974, trying as best they could raise all manner of likelihoods that CIA was involved in the Watergate break-in. The CIA IG conducted an extensive inquiry into all manner of rumors and questions that had been raised. Colby did a first run, replying to the so-called "Baker Report." As I fretted about it, Seymour Bolten and I did a later 70+ page comment on Baker's report. Later, when the Church Committee came on the scene, Baker's personal staff man, Mike (last name lost to this old man's aging memory) came to the IG's office. I said I wouldn't give him access to our Watergate file (I recall as some two safes full) until he had read the Bolten-Breckinridge critique of the so-called Baker report. In that case they saw our paper as well as the IG "Watergate Files" and an unfinished paper being done by John Richards when he underwent surgery, from which he didn't recover. I tell some of that story in my "CIA and the Cold War" pages 170-172, 182-184, 225-226.

Anyway, the Church staffers saw the paper Seymour and I did, as well as the IG file, and the uncompleted draft done by John Richards. I don't know how one can retrieve those records, much less that they were seen by the Church people.

Anne Karalekas, an impressive young lady, was the professional historian on the Church staff, and I recall that she got into CIA's history shop. She saw just about everything they had produced, eventually doing a book on CIA that I recall was well received. Without looking now I think some of her work will appear in the Church report. But she saw a lot of that material.

You will recall the dramatic exaggerations about MHCHAOS, which some Church people wanted to be seen as proof that CIA conducted massive surveillance inside the U.S. In fact, CHAOS was a foreign CI program, which is discussed in my "CIA and the Cold War," pages 164-166, 202-206. Anyway, the Church people saw the "Eyes Only" IG report on CHAOS, where ever it may reside (probably at least among the papers on the EUR inspection in 1972).

I suspect that rather than a formal record center the Church people, for the most part asked to take papers that seemed relevant to whatever issue they pursued as of a moment, and carried it away with them (or had it sent to them -- hence the above mention of transmittal letters). You mentioned seeing Church staffers' notes; would any such papers accompany them?

That's the best 2nd thoughts can produce after all these years. If more occurs to me I'll try to summarize it if it seems worth while.

'Twas good to talk with you. Good luck

Best wishes,

*W. C. C.*

Another 2<sup>nd</sup> thought. I did have a special file room established for all IG paper coming out of the Church affair. My thought was it might save a later purpose. By no way was all that seen by Church Committee people, but if it can be found it may show something that was seen by them.

*W. C. C.*