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October 1, 1974

publications

HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL

John D. Morrison, Jr., Esq.
Deputy General Counsel
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Re: Autobiography of Mr. E. Howard Hunt, Jr.

Dear Mr. Morrison:

I'm writing at your request to confirm our several telephone calls of yesterday.

Following discussions on Saturday, September 28, I went to New York yesterday to inform Mr. Edward Chase, Vice President of G. P. Putnam's Sons, Mr. Hunt's publisher, of the several changes which you had requested and to which Mr. Hunt had agreed. As you know, the publisher was quite unhappy about making these changes: For one thing, he feels that certain matters of principle litigated in the first Marchetti case should be reopened in the courts. For this reason, I chose to place my primary emphasis in talking to the publisher on the fact that Howard had agreed to these changes for reasons such as decency and patriotism which seemed good to him, rather than that the Agency had requested or demanded them. I'm happy to report that following long discussion this approach met with success.

The following four changes required by you under the first Marchetti decision have been made:

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Page 73-74 (78): The phrase "a Chinese newspaper" has been substituted for "the English language [Shanghai Post]". Thereafter, where the name of the Shanghai Post appears, the words "local paper" have been substituted. Also, the phrase "agent-journalists" has been changed to "friendly journalists".

On pages 80-81 (87-88): The phrase "one Communist embassy" has been substituted for "the [Guatemalan] embassy". Corresponding changes have been made thereafter, such as the substitution of "the Communists" for "[the Guatemalans]".

On page 115 (125): The phrase "clandestine facilities" has been substituted for "clandestine listening posts". Further along, the phrase "what we could do in our coverage of local targets" has been substituted for "that we were [monitoring 42 telephone lines]".

The above represent all of the changes which you absolutely required under the Marchetti decision. There were also a few other changes which you suggested and to which Howard agreed, and which have now been changed in the book:

On page 57 (60): The words "other members" have been substituted for "[Henry Pleasants]".

On page 63 (67): The phrase "an OPC chief" has been substituted for "Frank Holcomb".

On page 220 (239): The words "once was" have been substituted for "had been" with reference to the alias documentation which the C. I. A. had provided. Incidentally, we decided at the publisher's strong urging, to leave the phrase "alias documentation" intact, rather than changing it to "old documentation".

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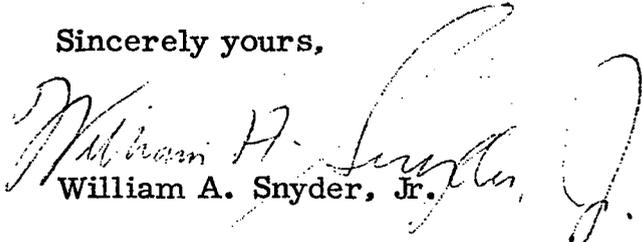
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Mr. Hunt's manuscript is now in what is called the blue-copy phase, which apparently is the penultimate step prior to publication. The pagination of the blue copy is slightly different from that of the bound galleys, because of the insertion of photographs and footnotes in their proper place. The blue-copy page numbers appear in parenthesis above.

Although I came away from my meeting with the publisher feeling satisfied, you understand that I cannot vouch for the fact that the changes which they promised to make will in fact be made in the final version of the book. However, Mr. Chase's demeanor, and the air of urgency which he conveyed, lead me to believe that the changes mentioned above to which the publisher has acquiesced will in fact be made.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the reasonable and fair-minded attitude which you and your colleague have brought to this task, which I am sure is an unwelcome one for you.

Sincerely yours,


William A. Snyder, Jr.

WAS/edd

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