

17 December 1968

Dear Sylvia:

Enclosed is a copy of my reply to a welcomed letter from Kerry. I do hope we will be able to reconcile the misunderstandings and all the misinformation. Also enclosed are some samples of Ed Horsey's writing. The two signatures are from books I have borrowed from him.

The other day someone asked to read one of my books, one Ed had read and returned. When the friend was leafing through the book he found a piece of paper that had apparently been used for a bookmark. On both sides were questions that seem to have been intended for use in a seance. Ed had mentioned a spiritualist right after he first contacted me and this was probably his list of questions. Anyway, the two pages give a good sample of his handwriting for comparison.

Analysis of the handwriting should be most interesting. The second page does indicate confused thinking, for one thing.

I told you about a news release in Kalamazoo the day after Ed was on Bob Ruark's program. At that time, I had heard it over the phone as it was played on his recorder. He brought it over and I copied it. It was not a recording he had made from a phone call as he said. His recorder is lousy at best. He had said his friend in Kalamazoo taped it from the radio or TV, played it over the phone and he, Ed, taped it from the phone. This was an original made directly from either radio or TV. Hearing it over the phone as played on his recorder, I could not tell it was better quality than it should have been.

It has been so peaceful here since Ed left town. He phoned night before last and said he would be back to spend Christmas with his parents. Maybe the plane will take a side trip to Cuba. On second thought, I hope not. Can you imagine the mileage he would get out of that publicity? I will just continue to play gullible until it dawns on him that I am doing no more than listen.

If he is mentally disturbed, I don't want to do the least thing to cause him to suspect I distrust him. I have covered a couple of angles here that he might have made use of. Perhaps he will hunt someone else to heckle.

Week before last I sent Harold Weisberg some newspaper clippings that had nothing whatsoever to do with Kerry. He had asked for them way back in the Spring. Prior to that, I believe the last material I sent was in February or March. If Ed hoped to furnish Kerry with any taped proof that I was working with either Weisberg or Garrison, it must have had to do with the puzzling phone calls regarding photostats of the Gelber diary. If that was what he had in mind, it sure didn't work.

The most recent thing Harold has asked for had to do with Ed Horsey's radio and TV appearances. He definitely wanted tapes of those. Not a word about Kerry, except to ask if I had heard from him.

The saddest thing about all of this is that, not only have I been plagued by all the phone calls, his mother has suffered some of the worst. What kind of person would be responsible for causing his own mother to worry?

I will go over the recordings I tried to make from the phone and see if any of them came out clear enough to be of any use. Everything is now set up permanently - recorder, telephone pickup and plenty of tape.

Thank you for warning Kerry. I had hoped you would and to be sure he would get the message some way or other, I had asked Bob Ruark to relay what I knew the first chance he got.

For the umpteenth time I now have to rescue the Christmas tree from George Henry and Pichit. They are convinced I did all that work just so they would have new toys. They just won't listen to reason.

By the way, the job my friend applied for at the St. Petersburg Times was the position of secretary to the owner, Nelson Poynter. He is still looking and probably will continue to do so for a long time. He will have a hard time finding anyone to replace his wife. She collaborated with him on many of the columns before she died.

Sylvia, have a good Christmas and let's hope 1969 is better than 1968.

Best wishes and love,

*Helen*

P.S. I am sending a copy of this to Kerry since it includes a few things I neglected to include in my letter to him. Just living is difficult enough for most of us without having any other person add to the problems. I have always tried to do nothing that would cause distress for another person. So far as I know, I have never done or said anything to give Kerry any concern - other than my last call to you and that was a plea for help in my own confusion. I hope I never, in the future, do anything that will make things harder for him than they must be already.

This P.S. is not on his copy. He will be able to learn this for himself if there is much contact.

Whenever I meet with Kerry and Mr. Levine, I will take the original of Ed's writing so I did not send him a copy.

Bye again.

*Helen*