

Dec. 18, 1968

Dear Sylvia,

(copy of a carbon of a)
Enclosed find a letter I sent to Vince Salandria last night, which you might read before you proceed with this letter.

I haven't the slightest idea what is bothering him, and caused him to write his two sentence letter to me.

I don't think he could have reference to my mailing on Garrison, for I sent him one, along with everyone else, and that was some time ago. Also, as you said, it induced him to write to you (regarding your letters).

If you have any information which might enlighten me on what has upset Vince, please let me know; but, I might also add, please don't waste a penny in phone calls to find out, or any time. Only if you already have information. (For I certainly don't!)

My suspicions are, naturally, that someone has fabricated and disseminated something regarding me, and Vince; I haven't the slightest idea what, or who.

After my last experience in trying to stomp out a rumor, (Spring, 1967, re Burton and Field) I have vowed never to get (last) so up tight again over such things. I remember, on New Year's Eve, when one reviews the past year, kicking myself in the behind over the fact that in April, 1967, I could hardly work or do anything else for two weeks, so thoroughly upset was I over the dissemination of that false story. I have since decided that true friends will never accept unverified information of that sort, and that if one loses friends over something like that, they weren't worth much to begin with.

One other point. I have been meaning to ask you if you know anything further you could pass along re the following sentence in your letter to me of August 19, 1968: "I was prepared for Harold's denunciation of you and Thornley and your unnamed but sinister backers;" What is he talking about? Did he specify since?

Miscellaneous items: ***

I am told that Boxley was fired. I don't know much about him, as I really haven't followed the latest in that area.

By the way, Mae Brussel was here a few days ago, and I spoke with her for a few hours. An Israeli friend of mine (who knows Arnoni) has known the Brussels for years, and I met Mae Brussel through this friend. Anyway, she tells me that Garrison's theory (whichever one she heard) has Ruth Paine as innocent of any wrongdoing. Mae has a theory, with which I disagree, in which Ruth Paine, Hosty, and Marina, are all part of a plot to get the rifle from the garage planted in the TSBD so that it could be found there by 1:22.

All the best,

David

