

Dear Bill - (O'Connell) forgive me long absence.

8/27/68

I don't even remember now when we spoke last. I had a period of lethargy, then left unexpectedly for a week in the pen, cat and all, and on return, reported back to the office - just in time for the Czech crisis. One of the most criminal and stupid decisions ever taken by a major power. Even so, USA scarcely has clean hands, and it is positively frightening to see George Ball's hatred and venom in the Security Council.

I hope all the problems which were plaguing the film-making have been worked out, and that you are well and not too homesick.

Many ripples spread out from Epstein's article (I hope you read it?). Hypocritical "defence" of Garrison by Weisberg, Field, et al - none of whom even tried to justify or refute the central, material charges. I had to write quite a few letters, including an angry letter to Epstein for his softness on the WR and his parroting on his stated intention to claim Garrison as an added argument for a new investigation.

Two deranged letters from Weisberg, protesting my financial aid to Thornberg. He had the effrontery to tell me how I should better have spent my own money - e.g. ① for CDs from the Archives, or ② financial aid to Weisberg, unrepentant and martyred, as is his permanent condition.

~~Wrote~~

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About the tapes - I'm trying to arrange to hear them (and perhaps re-tape them) on UN radio equipment. Every other possibility failed to pan out.

One apparent result of Epstein's article is that Popkin became very upset by the evidence that Russo's story was cooked up in the DA's chambers and induced by chemicals & hypnosis. Faithful as he has been, Popkin still made his own check and, I am told, was forced to conclude (against his own will) that Russo's story was false. He also is very worried, I'm told, by G's deteriorating mental condition.

Last week, Prague. This week, Chicago. What a year this has been - so far.

Did you see Zoo1 - A Epic Odyssey? I've been 3 times, so far, largely because (this is confidential!) I like the music. I do hope they publish a record of the sound-track! Do write, if you can.

Bill, and let me know how you are and when you return to Los Angeles.
again