

7316-13th Ave NW

Seattle, WA 98107

1 Aug 71

Dear Sylvia,

Forgive my inflicting my handwriting on you; my typewriter is, once again, my excuse.

Guess what! Jarry Haapanen and I are writing a book, with the tentative working title of The Harrison Papers. We intend it to be a history and analysis of the affair from the as yet unrepresented viewpoint of disbelief in both Harrison and the WC. As it stands now, it looks like our basic conclusion about Harrison will be that he was the wrong man in the right place at the right time, and that his activities effectively preempted the growing sentiment for a Federal reinvestigation.

Our book will go beyond the newspaper reports, and will rely heavily upon such unpublished sources as our growing collection of transcripts, investigators' reports and memoranda from the New Orleans files. I think we have a good chance of being able to describe and explain the salient events, both in the office and in the field, including those with little or no airing in print, such as the Heplurn hoax, Rose, Boyley, and the inside dope on how Tom Thornhill framed Edgar Eugene Bradley.

I feel that Jarry and I are well situated for this task. Both of us have a great deal of published and unpublished material, plus wide acquaintanceship among investigators and other principals. Neither of us is incapable of a bit of dissembling when dealing with the Faithful. In addition, no critic hates Jarry -- a startling situation. Jarry will put in a couple of weeks in Los Angeles later this month while I'm in Dallas.

Anyway, we would like your help, in the form of access to unpublished material and your brain. In the former category, if you have anything you think would be helpful, and are willing to let us use, give me an estimate of what copying would cost and I'll send you a check.

In the latter category, I would appreciate, first, any advice you could give on sources of information, etc. Also, if you wouldn't mind being a guinea pig, we

would like you to read and criticize the manuscript if it ever gets born. In addition, I would appreciate, if possible, a rundown of how and when you learned of the Harrison investigation, your contacts with the office and its people, and your observations concerning the critics in the early period of the Harrison flap.

It is not unlikely that I shall have some specific questions before long.

Needless to say, I have one more favor to ask of you. Please don't tell anybody about the book. Besides Sam and me, you are the only critic who knows about it, and we plan to tell only one other person. The reason for this, of course, is that a lot of these folks would close up as tight as an old Army uniform if they suspected that a book was being written, since there are some images and self-images at stake.

Sooner or later, of course, we'll show our cards, but that must await a more opportune time.

So that's the picture. I hope you approve. Let me know.

Kindest wishes,

Henry