

8 December 1968

Mr. Kerry Thornley
2803 Marlin
Tampa 33611

Dear Kerry,

Thanks for your letters of 4 November and 3 December and the various enclosures. I appreciate the copies of HW's and Alcock's letters to Newcomb and the cutting from the Tampa Tribune-Times, with its kind remarks about my work. Your new letterhead, by the way, is very striking.

I was inclined to agree with your diagnosis of Horsey as a practitioner of "just pure disinterested lies." Now I am not so sure. Apparently he is trying to cast suspicion on you as the perpetrator of a series of mischievous, malicious, and harassing phone calls to Helen Hartmann. For example, he told her that you had written to Thompson, asking him to have Horsey get in touch with you, and that Thompson had sent Horsey a copy of your letter to him. Horsey displayed the alleged copy of your letter to Thompson, but only momentarily, so that Mrs. Hartmann could not actually read it. I was highly sceptical of this story, as Thompson would have mentioned having a letter from you, but did not do so, and because I did not think that he knew Horsey's address in St. Petersburg.

I called Thompson in Philadelphia, and he confirmed immediately and categorically that he had never received a letter from you, had never sent a copy to Horsey, and does not know Horsey's address. As I had thought, Horsey's allegations are completely false, and apparently malicious in intent so far as you are concerned. I informed Mrs. Hartmann immediately of my conversation with Thompson and she is now on guard against anything that Horsey says or does, although up to this point he seems to have bulldozed her quite successfully. I did not tell her that I was going to inform you of this incident and I hope that she would not have any objections; but it did seem to me that you were entitled to know that Horsey is not as harmless as he seemed and that he seems to have some malicious intent toward you.

Incidentally, Mrs. Hartmann suspects that "Dr. John Smith" does not exist at all and that Horsey himself wrote to you under that name. Was the letter handwritten or typewritten? Can you send me a copy? (It doesn't really matter, I guess—it would only be another proof that Horsey is a liar, and we know that already.) I might add that I feel, from my correspondence and a few telephone conversations with Mrs. Hartmann, that she is completely trustworthy and honest, though not immune from mistakes in judgment (are any of us?). However, I may be wrong and would like to know if you find any corroboration of the allegation that he is quietly cooperating with "Wildgoose" (Garrison, I presume?). Horsey, by the way, supposedly is returning to Kalamazoo today.

Best regards,