

Dear Bill,

1/21/95

In your 1/19 you ask if the FBI ever found anything interesting in my sex life when it investigated the critics' sex lives. Because they've given me no such records I can answer you only /one way: unless their concept of what is interesting is as abnormal as so many of their other concepts, the answer is no. Nothing unusual in it. But then with what they've made up, who can know what their files hold?

I know of only one on whom it had any such records and of what they have I know only of a picture or pictures. When Mark Lane was in the NY legislature he had a picture or pictures of him taken with two women, all three naked. I was offered a look at them by one of Clay Shaw's lawyers and I declined. One of Garrison's assistants did accept that invitation and he told me in general about them ~~what I~~ do not now recall. The FBI showed them to a NY Times reporter who was a friend, Martin Waldron. He found them disgusting. The House assassins committee had prints. Scott Malone told me they were pins and needles stuff.

I believe they may have a different kind of info on Ed Epstein. I've always believed he is homosexual. Hoover hated them so if true the agents probably extended themselves to get what they could.

When Lane's political opponents got those pictures he decided not to run again. He was then a liberal. He is now with the country's outstanding native nazi and holocaust-denier, that far to the right. *Wills Carter*.

I do not recall what I said about those Broadway showgirls but here is that story:

When I was Click's Washington correspondent I got the idea for a monthly feature with war brewing. 1941. "Your Government Reports." One of those articles was to promote silk substitutes, mostly cotton. The Olson and Johnson hit Hellzapoppin' was at the National Theater in Washington. I went to a department store and loaded up on women's clothing, including undergarments, all or almost all cotton. I went to the theater and spoke to the show's p.r. man. I spoke to a friend who was the Wash. correspondent of the then much ~~idid~~ different paper, the NY Post. He had a fine old house in Virginia where I knew we could use the stairs and I was not with the photog when he photographed them in a bedroom displaying the undergarments.

The photog was sort of big time, from out of town. Lil's younger brother was then the manager of a small hotel he'd built up from ~~bankruptcy~~ bankruptcy so the photog had a large room there. The four of us ^{Early a.m.} journaled to it to have a few drinks and relax. As the girls got to talking, they were glad to be with people who were pleasant and relaxing and as their complaints about showgirls' lives continued, one was that they missed home cooking and eating in a home environment. So, I immediately invited them for dinner that night, gave them our address, and promptly forgot to tell Lil. So, when I was working on a story that late afternoon and ~~was~~ ^{was} a little late getting home those two girls were there before I was. Lil told me about it later. They knocked on the door, saw Lil did

"Had invited us."

not expect them, so they told her. ^{and they did enjoy themselves.} I drove them to the theater in time to get ready for the evening performance. Never heard from them again.

One was the star, and she was quite young; ^{Both were.} as I recall. I think she did a dance act. She was known ^{as} ~~to~~ "The Boopisadassie Girl."

Lil was a fantastic cook, believe me. And I had an in with the butcher.

Most of the time I had no reason to suspect that anyone was following me, but I also never checked, seeing no reason to. If the FBI was aware that one week I was the house guest of one of JACK's ^{lady} friends, it was only that. If I got back there again we were to do an oral history she was to put aside for years. She would have had the only copy. She was a bright, attractive, intelligent wealthy woman and from what she told me he was completely honest with her. He also told her the names of men he believed Jackie was having affairs with. That was before he was nominated. That was the last time she saw him. He told her he loved Jackie and she believed him. I remember a few other details, like Joe Kennedy getting wind of their affair and shifting the apartment he had for Jack to the middle one at the Carlyle Hotel in New York City rather than an end one. I gather there were three in a row, next to each other. I imagine the FBI is loaded with such stuff.

In those days I forgot too often to tell Lil about invitations I'd extended and she was always very good about it.

One night when I had not forgotten and I'd gotten her a ham five years old we had among the dinner guests a Congressman and two former Congressmen. Best ~~ham~~ ham we ever tasted. After the considerable work she had getting all the skippers out. Then soaking it for a day, then parboiling it and only then baking it.

On that "Your Government Reports" series I had to meet with Frances McKnight, later the ogre she wanted to be when she was of lower rank, I think in the information office of one of the major war agencies. She believed everyone above her was a dangerous Communist and said so at great and by ~~ing~~ length. Including the head of the agency, a wealthy mild liberal. When she headed the passport office at State she created a great number of scandals before what she cooked up was finally held to be UnConstitutional. Today she'd fine Hewt Uingler a bit too liberal for her. That was probably under Eisenhower and it was probably Nixon who got her that job.

She was as extreme as Dies, who ^{she} knew, and was probably connected with him when he headed that infamous committee.

That tickler you had in mind refers to dossiers on the Commission members. With Allen Dulles, if the FBI went in for that on him, it could have kept a bit busy.

John, who was our customer, was older, had the gout and did ~~not~~ not look like the type.

The rest of that letter is your confirming the good book, ask and it shall be opened unto thee; seek and thee shall find. More later.

Thanks for the explanation. I was concerned that one of you might be ill, something like that because of your long silence.

If any of the bookstores you ^asked about Whitewash had looked in their standard source, "Books in Print, they'd have found us and our books.

As you taught yourself fly fishing, I taught myself radio and as you hand-built stereos I custom-built radios. We want to or we need to and we try and often we do it.

You sure did well with that pension plan!

Sahl could be very funny. Also very nasty, as + observed in doing a radio show he had in the late 60s.

When what Reagan's legacy will be will be largely determined by which ^{way} the present changes wind up. In any honest evaluation the budget deficit ~~tripled~~ tripled as he tripled it may not be the most severe criticism of him. He was a great disaster for the country and he set government back decades, what government needs to be and ^{it} to a degree was. And I think that Kennedy will be remembered for more than the vision that got us to the moon.

Thanks for telling me about the disks, about which I'm ignorant. The original, which I have, I believe was LBI. I'm not clear on the substitutions they had to make at Hood, where Jerry had the duplicates made. Wrone also has one. You and Gerry both want to remember that the insertions may not have been made where + intended and that I've not seen this. I am interested in knowing the last page number. The printout I have ends on 788 and there should be more. So if the disks ends there I'd like to know the chapter so I can try to get what followed typed.

I do not expect to hear from Belin. I got the delivery receipt today.

I'm glad you got to meet both Jerrys, Dave and Dennis. You'll never ~~meet~~ meet finer men.

Now I'd better change the ribbon. ✓

Thanks and best to you both,

Have none! will get on Monday
Harold