

9/21/68

Dear Steve,

Your letter of 9/16 arrived today. As you can see, I've been accumulating things for you because I know you didn't get for them too often. I suggest that it would be still better if you were even less paranoid and get your mail at home. Without an okay from you I will not send it there. Besides, I've lost it.

I've asked for the Armstrong stuff to come to me so I can watch it and follow leads, sort of keep on top. If I get anything, I'll immediately forward. If further correspondence is necessary, you'll get copies. If the index to CD7 you refer to is what I think it is, it may not be complete. I had some copies of the suppressed stuff only made up for checking to see if my suspicion could be confirmed, that Hoover suppressed what related to his radical-right pals. All the names I could identify in this enormous single hunk of withholding are consistent with that. If you have a carbon, this is it. If you have a Xerox, it may be the entire thing. Ask Paul to run this and anything that by now you may have relating to it through his indexes, then he can send me what emerges, and I can use it to keep the Archives honest. As the enclosed shows, he now has all the indexes.

There is something familiar about that name.

I'm glad you'll be in a position to make a copy of Coup D'etat for yourself. As usual, John did not keep his word. He didn't mail it to you on Monday, he mailed it to me on Thursday. I've sent it to Art and Jim special handling, which carries it as first-class mail, for that is, I think, more dependable than your box. There is an addition I am not in as much hurry to get back, though it probably would be better if you could copy that too and then make complete notes. My present intention is to use everything on the executive sessions save on one aspect, which is more appropriate in POST MORTEM, in a single place. If I do not get back on COUP the coming week, I'll probably do that.

As you know, I have the deepest misgivings about Brosehars. I am now even more sorry that Moo never either kept his appointment with me nor notified me he wouldn't last time I was there, because I'd then have seen him, as Hal wanted, and we'd have been six months ahead in checking him and his yarn. But Jaffe appearing with him is utterly insane, with or without black militants as shepherds.

Steve, there are very few things about which I am paranoid. Perhaps I have erred in the other direction. If you have not yet detected on your own what I have been trying to alert you to as the great hazard on our side, does this not start you there? Mark has been at least as bad. I believe he has already lost the case for Jim before it gets into court and I'd not be surprised if there were something less than official unhappiness over it.

You will eventually learn that it is not jealousy (what's there to be jealous of?), not anger over his persistent thefts that makes me so resentful of the bad things Mark does as much as his endless jeopardizing of everything and everybody in our side and the undependability of what he does and says. He does make deliberate errors when he knows better and this is perhaps the least unkind criticism I can make. If he did fall asleep at Brosehars' and Jaffe's "dia the work", as you put it, we have lost nothing, believe me. I have transcripts of some of Mark's appearances. I assure you that the other side is making preparations. I did nothing to get these transcripts. They were sent me. Louis is quite worried about this, and I tell you and you alone that he discussed this with me this week. The only transcript I wanted I made myself. It was the Washington show I gave him. I'll eventually transcribe the important parts and give you copies, so you'll see what came out when I held myself back. If you have a copy of the Jack Anderson Broadcasting piece I'd like it.

One of my least dependable (paranoid, certified) but sometimes quite accurate sources reports a nasty article about me in an underground paper. If you are familiar with it, please try and learn the author, if the piece is unsigned. I haven't seen or otherwise heard of it.

Liftonxis supposedly doing something for the "Atlantic Monthly".

When you make arrangements for my coming trip, I think it might be better to allow more working time for me in the LA area unless you can personally follow up on the leads I may develop. You know how many there have been before, and you know how entirely inadequately they have been pursued, and how late. If you can do this yourself, then load me with appearances, but if there is to be a tough one, like that Pyne radio thing with Butler, try and leave me a little more time for rest so I won't blow it as readily. I've been trying to rest up. Several nights lately I've slept almost 8 hours and I aim for a minimum of six now. I find it is actually tiring me, that when the nervous energy gives up, the genuine physical energy isn't here. Perhaps it is partly because I've set about losing weight and have knocked off 30 pounds, which means I do not eat enough, and because I am stopping smoking, and it has me fuzzy and jumpy as hell. I would like this to be as soon as possible, for if I am away before it freezes here I can stay away longer without as much concern for my wife.

If I send you a transcript of that Liebelier speech you taped and mark certain excerpts, could you get dubs of those parts made from your original? Perhaps by Art or Jim, each on a cassette? Then I could use them. If each is on a separate cassette, it allows for faster and more flexible use. I now have a fair amount on him and would like to use it out there, preferably at UCLA, as a challenge more than what is inherent, an attack. If you are in accord, let me know and I'll prepare for it.

I've heard from Gary. No mention of loss of eye.

I think the enclosed are self-explanatory.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

CITIZENS' COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

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STEVEN J. BURTON, National Chairman

16 September 1968

Dear Harold,

I have received two recent packages from you through my drop and thank you. However, it would be better, I think, if fairly routing communications were sent to the P.O. Box. It requires a special 12 miles to get to the drop and I'd like that reserved for special junk. Incidentally, if you change your 320 to a 316, you'll be more accurate from now on.

Came across something interesting. I tell you here only with caution, for it is not yet authenticated. A young man, a student at San Diego State College (our people there have checked him out) was found dead by hanging several years ago. His name was NEWTON ARMSTRONG and his father, who believed it to be murder rather than suicide, is NEWTON ARMSTRONG, SR. Jr. was a member of the Young Americans for Freedom and I believe that he was in the more moderate faction (the news clippings are with one of my witnesses now). Rumors among the nazi elements here said that BRADLEY was the first person on the scene of the death.

I heard this two months ago and did not think a lot of it, although I did ask the San Diego people to investigate. Then I clean out the trunk of my car yesterday and come across a name index to CD #7. Page 508 of CD 7 has the names NEWTON ARMSTRONG and NEWTON ARMSTRONG, SR. on it! Now I'm interested.

I would appreciate it mucho if you could get copies of this page from the Archives for me. Also any other documents on these people. I figure that it would be faster for you to send them to me than to go directly to the Archives (Paul told me that it is

taking six weeks to get copies). I am anxious to see what this is, but there is, of course, no reason for you to make a special trip or anything like that. Also, when you see 508, ascertain if other pages are necessary for comprehension.

I still have not received COUP D'ETAT from Frisco. As soon as I do, I'll make a copy for myself (Jim Lawrence would like to see it) and get it right back to you.

Hope all is o.k. with you. Things are quiet here. Believe it or not, I'm actually working as a truck driver for this week! Before you have an attack or something, it is for my dad because the regular driver is on vacation.

One last thing: Broshears is holding a public meeting at which he and Jaffe will speak. Black militants will be sargents at arms and the police have intel reports of planned Minutemen disruption. It should be a fiasco from all viewpoints. I think it is a terrible idea.

Also, to be considered rumor, Lane fell asleep on Broshears couch when he went to see him. Jaffe did the work.

Best wishes,


Steven J. Burton