

3/26/70

Dear Mary,

Your letter of the 24th was excellent time.

Perhaps the trip to LA will be better than treatment for Billy Lee. I do hope so.

Bud drafted the complaint, with only the most minor suggestions from me. I asked his secretary to distribute copies among those I know might want them.

Probably I'll file the next one myself, acting as my own lawyer, for a number of reasons, only one of which is to reduce the burden on Bud. Another is it would enable me to do the examining of witnesses. I visualize all unfriendly witnesses except possibly one, aside from myself. I think most lawyers would shudder at that, but in this case I think it necessary.

If you have any suggestions or corrections for COUP, please let me know. Unless there is little prospect of getting it printed, I do want to correct any errors that may have slipped through. Paul caught a real boob in the appendix. I've just sent a corrected footnote for temporary page 55. He made "emergency" correction at my request so the error would not get distributed.

Your comments on Judy are interesting. And on Hill.

It is always a disappointment to me to find even those who oppress us with so little self-respect, so little concern for fact and truth, or such contempt for the obligations of the writer and the national interest and integrity.

How can we live with so much of this in those allegedly mature and not be at least sympathetic to the perplexities of youth and their inability to cope with them or, really, to have any influence on their own destinies?

Hope you have a good holiday, all of you.

Sincerely,

4406 Holland  
Dallas, Texas 75219  
March 24, 1970

Dear Harold and Paul:

Thank you both for the section of Coup which Paul sent this past week. The documents and comments are GREAT... I am enclosing a \$5 check for Paul for the Xeroxing.

Yes, Harold, I received the copy of the Complaint which you filed against the Depts. of State and Justice. It is a very excellent petition and the Exhibits are very powerful. I do hope it gets results and feel that if anything can, it will.

My youngest son, who has been ill, is now in California visiting with the Newcombs. We talk to him almost every day and he seems to be having a great time... it seems that he is extremely fond of Fred's daughter, Val. She is a very lovely young lady. I met her when I was in California a year ago. Of course, I am sorry that Jimmy is missing this semester of college but maybe he can make it up later.

Paul, I have looked through all the old directories I have and I have had others look and all we can find is one B. Ortega and that is here in Dallas. No Artega or Ortego or Artego... I'll see what I can find on the Klein ad.

A friend of mine was at a party about a week ago and Gerry Hill (the policeman) was there... He felt that he was among "friends" and made the remark that they should all read Investigation of a Homicide... said he wrote it... If you will remember, he was once amusements writer for the Times Herald, so it is possible. This would explain several things. When we first met Judy in February of 1969, the book was in galley proofs. We read it and found so many errors which we pointed out to her that they pulled the book back in. When we would point out things to Judy, she would say, "Where did you get that?" We would show her the volumes and it was evident that she had never read them. She finally admitted she didn't have them. From the book, I believe she had some girl doing research at the library in the volumes. I remember that one evening, in Judy's presence, I made the remark that Gerald Hill was high on my list of suspects. She really jumped down my throat and was high in her praise of him...

My luncheon date is here so I must go...



Mary