

7/16/69

Dear Lou,

Please thank Jim for his kind letter of the 11th and the enclosed check. Alas, I have already had to cash and use it, which makes it more welcome.

I am writing you because it was three days before it was postmarked and because of the very obvious if probably innocent defacing of the envelope. The envelope, as you can see, was not postmarked until the 14th, which may be when it was mailed. It also had something spilled on it, again a possible accident before mailing. Whatever this is and whatever accounts for it, some unclear writing in several different colors is visible on the flap, as is a large area of discoloration. I do not for one minute think anyone intercepting mail would deliberately do such things, but I enclose the envelope and if it is of any interest to you, you can take it from there. You'll notice the number 12 on the flap, too, and what may be another less clear.

As time goes on I forget more. It has already come to the point where I just will not be able to go over that large stack of correspondence to determine what it is that I have loaned your office and not gotten back. I do hope you will soon find time to take care of these things. Otherwise, if not already, they will soon be beyond retrieval.

And it would be good to know whether or not you will do anything about the few requests I have made, now also slipping into dimness.

Whatever it is that hit me two weeks ago, it left me weak. I spend part of every day trying to rest, part in moderate exercise, swimming and sunbathing, and part working. The addition to COUP D'ETAT is now more than book length and is far from finished. The record does not warrant optimism, but I think I have enough in it to warrant action against several lawyers (never happen), to get Ray a "new" trial - and to acquit him of the murder charge. Although I did a different book after I was there and have worked on others, some of which I laid aside to go there, I intend completing this before doing any other writing.

I've seen what the N.O. papers carried on the Bradley suit, and I've written Art to ask him to send me everything he can on it. Some of those involved interest me only as what hurts them hurts all of us. Others I have a warm personal feeling for. I think it is possible I may be able to help the San Diego people. They will not write me because they promised to pay my expenses there and when I got there they couldn't. Nonetheless, although embarrassed, they are fine people. I think that if the case ever gets to court, as against them I have already done what is exculpatory, but they will not be aware of it. The L.A. people will not write me. I haven't heard from them, any of them, in a long time. Therefore, I'd appreciate it if you could have whoever in the office receives information on this make copies and send them to me as it is received. You also are rather weak in this department, and anything that helps others helps you, too. Should I find anything therein, if you want to know as I go, I will write you. Otherwise I'll just build a file and make notes as it builds for the time when it can be of use. I am in a unique position on Bradley, having had nothing to do with that part, never having believed it, and having actually helped him, though he also doesn't know it. Not that I have any use for him.

Only infrequently does the immediate work relate to N.O. However, there is a certain amount of daily work on other materials that brings me back to what I discovered there. For whatever it is worth, in the face of your disbelief, I assure you that occasionally I still find additional confirmation for what I got following leads and clues from that most unstable girl. My continuing problem is doping out how she knew. What Moo promised and then never sent on what you have learned about the camp 10 miles from where you expected might help here. In any event, busy as you must be, I do ask that insofar as you hear things about her and the

troubles that are her way of life, you let me know. The missing link may show up and if I am uninformed will miss it. I already have a theory I cannot prove but do believe.

Naturally, I am interested in the shooting of John George. I would like to know what there is to know about it. If you still have good relations with Joe Oster, ask him for me if he can account for JG's whereabouts the week beginning ~~XXXX~~ Subday, March 30. Also, if he has established any connections aside from Sheridan and that crew. One that might be of considerable interest would be with your State police.

Once again I have been able to establish new working relationships with "the other side". I cannot tell you more at this point and by this means. I am hopeful that in certain areas I cannot here indicate it will ultimately be of some value in what we all (or at least some of us) still seek.

Returning to the camp, I suggest it is not safe to assume that it cannot possibly have any relationship to what should be and what ~~Kass~~ Moo tells me is your exclusive interest. I am not saying I know it is or has to be but I am suggesting that, when compared with other things I have learned from other sources, it is within possibility.

If and when you get to court on Tom, you might want to interest yourself in his doing the same thing with Epstein, not necessarily with the same papers exactly. He so indicated to me the time the New Yorker piece came out. We discussed it in his office the day it appeared. I drove him to a newsstand in the Quarter where he got copies for himself and me, including the copy you got from me, while I stayed in the car.

Best regards to everyone. Please do not forget to thank Jim. I only wish it were possible to do something about the rest of it. Doing all these things with no income and no subsidy or support is costly and rough. I was able to renegotiate most of my debt, what had to be. But, it is costing me 25% more in interest.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg