

RB, JL, JP, PB, WG
JW

Further comments on "threat" by Duncan/Ockie

8/15/71

RB is a classicist whose name is known to two who will receive this. He has just seen a copy and a few of the notes-not all of them by any means. He, too, is fascinated, described the author is no fool and an educated man. For the most part his initial perceptions are similar to some of ours. On the heavy references to stones, he adds some things, in particular one that interests me. He agrees, in general on magister from a slightly different approach.

In the name of the addressee, Rothstein, he says that in ~~w~~old of Middle German Roth was what today is rot, meaning red, and the name becomes Redstone, like in the arsenal or the rocket. If taken phonetically, like "wroth"; it becomes angry stone. This is interesting, but I personally feel the addressee was selected because of his address. RB wonders if there is significance in the street number, as in Oct. 18/

In connection with Redstone, not realizing its proximity to Oak Ridge, he notes that the address of the Ray jail is Petros, which is also Greek for stone. But not knowing about Oak Ridge he still brackets this with Ball and Chain/fission, reaching the same conjecture by a different means and with this meaning to Petros adding to it, I think.

Taking the biblical bit further, on petros/stone: "Jesus to Peter: 'Upon this rock (petros in the Greek version) I built my church'. Peter's name means 'stone.' (How, RB?) It was not his real name, but he assumed it as an alias in later life."

From the Oxford Classical dictionary on Magister equitum, this facets we did not have: "...in later practise to represent the dictotor either on the field of battle or at Rome. He held derivatory imperium (supreme ~~max~~ administrative power-RB) from the dictator and ranked with the praetors." With this so close to the suggestions hinting at Teddy, I'd be interested in his comment, "'There is a bit more, but not especially interesting to you." And please also note that Paul Valentine's immediate reaction to "Ockie" was could it be a nickname for Francis Parkey Yockey who wrote a ~~story~~ of American Mein Kampf titled Imperium.

On the overtone of heroin in horse, nightspot can be "night's pot, bracketed with "hashed" and on hashish.

He plays with Duncan this: "Maybe not to be taken as name but as a statement, "Dun (phonetic) can". He will be reading John Donne for clues. But he takes this as following the opening question, "Can Mr. Weisberg translate" and wonders can the author thus be replying "Donne can".

Two possibilities not earlier considered with Ockie. I.e., or Ock, that is, and to be said, Oh, see K." Ka= Kennedy, of whom two are dead and one survives.

Where I have content myself with Vigoro as the fertilizer and see sufficient in it to make that among the more lucid parts, he adds from the Latin: "I am animate; I invigorate, I am stout, lusty, vigorous. I am becoming very strong. I am gaining strength."

Expressing no confidence in them, he wonders about constable as con's table and same with Barn(es)stable, On Tona, he agrees with my rearlier suggestion of thunder "in Latin (from tono, tonare): it's a mood is imperative, as in giving a command. It means 'thunder', make a loud thundering noise, roar", etc. What he does not see if the poss. ellipsis in wheat= South Dakota, whence McGovern,

Saying it means nothing to him, Lee in Irvings, he asked could this be "ennerving". If so, I suggest this can be rich, for in considering both possibilities, this "ennerving" and the reference to the night before the JFK assassination, there can be meaning.

On De plain: If this is meant as French, it may have been formed corruptly on the analogy of de trop (too much), and might therefore mean "too plain, too simple, too easy, or -perhaps- too flat, too level?"

On hashed tona on wheat (where I wonder if wheat stands for South Dakota again), he says "hashed (on hash), thunder loudly, on wheat --which makes as much sense to me as hashed tona on wheat, with spinach, yet."

Several of us agree that if there is a major clue missing, it may well be someplace here.

Although I am satisfied that the Dead Run address was selected for the street name, that being sufficient rich in meaning, I ask WG if he can see anything further in this German.

And PB, who is also a poet, might consider what he can recall from Donne that might fit this interpretation of Donne can in the sense of answering the question, Can Mr. Weisberg translate?

My apologies to all for the worse-than-usual early-morning typing before I get to other work.

HW

8/11/71

Dear Bob,

Writing up a storm to complete draft missing part PM. Haven't read a word of it and Eric is coming in a week. He can be exceedingly helpful with it, so I'm concentrating on finishing it in the hope I'll be able to at least start correcting before he starts reading. Getting near ends, which was faster than I'd thought when I started it. And it is with leaving much out.

I've had to suspend on the "threat" for many reasons, one being pissed off at the administrative assistants to both Senators, both of whom promised to have certain obvious checks made at the Library of Congress and haven't. They need only phone in a request and such things as concordances would be checked pronto. And free.

Everybody seems the same thing in "stones" you have added. I'll be sending something to others on this and will carbon you. Petros, for example, is fascinating when you consider the other possible refs to Hay. The closest known city to Petros, with is where the road doesn't even widen, is Sak Ridge! How does this fit your thoughts?

On Luke (and this is not in John Mark or Matthew, read all of that for real context.

I think Rothstein was selected because of that "Dead Run" and probably because the author is of the right and would look against the left, as he sees directions.

You will come to more on "Duncan", including a bit with Ockie as a nickname for Ockham (and Ockham's Razor). If I didn't forget to send Howard and he didn't forget in sending to you. BT to add to your Macbird, Ken O'Dunc was JFK.

Barnstable link to Teddy/Cahp., as you'll see. There was a police official not a constable in that. Your later on constable is closer to my belief of intended meaning. It is less complicated in an unabridged dict.

I got further than you, "writer is not a fool". He is an exceptionally well-read or well-educated man and I have a suspect in a translator. He shows language familiarity, even in double entendres.

Not ruling out all these stone refs (and why not add Sande?), what can you see?

On register, why not pun on "Horse" and again Teddy? Is another archaic meaning fits. Fascinating that you come to "imperium" in tracing this, because one of the early hunches on Ockie is as nickname for Francis Farkey Fockey, author Imperium, an Amer. Latin Kampf. All agree on poss refs drugs, but your night's pot is new and worthwhile... read that Donne, man! Vigoro=fertilizer. If you haven't this early stuff, I'll fill in. Lilac N.H. state flower. Is candidate "shears ears"? Tona may be one of keys. We got thinder from dict, but are blocked on rest, i.e. spinach (what is that in slang?) How about corrupted "the plain meaning on the level? Carryin that hashed tona, which is sensible as far as you go, further, we have to make sense out of "that" plus popeye food.

Everybody finds it fascinating save ER. My only doubt is of intention, and the usual odds are against seriousness. But can one chance it?

Please keep it up, esp. as I have to slacken.

Best,

10 Aug 1971

Dear Harold:

From Howard I just received the file "Weisberg-threat". I have read merely a page or two, but already have thoughts that may interest you. I'll set them forth in a sort of stream-of-consciousness form, and hope you understand. I write this as I read the file-- probably will add to it later.

Envelope: The writer seems preoccupied with stones. He uses the name I.F.Stone, addresses to Rothstein (Stein is the German word for stone), ~~addresses~~ mails the letter from Rockville.

Preoccupation with "stone" makes me think that the author's return address, 1940 Luke St., refers to the New Testament, (St.) Luke, ch. 19, verse 40: "And he (Jesus) answered and said unto them (the Pharisees), I tell you that, if these (Jesus's disciples) should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out." See this passage in context. (Note: the Pharisees ~~reference~~ address Jesus as "Master"-- cf. magister, the Latin word for master. This may be coincidental.)

Rothstein: roth is Old or Middle German for the modern rot, meaning "red"-- hence, Redstone for Rothstein. This seems to bear no reference to possible threat. Better is to regard "Roth" as phonetically equal to "wroth", archaic word meaning "angry"-- hence, Angry-stone for Rothstein.

If I am thinking correctly above, the author is making strange connections, so I would search for significance in things that may seem coincidental. Dear Run Drive may be meaningful to the author; perhaps even 1018 as a date (Oct. 18) or something, just as 1940 Luke St. seemed meaningful to him.

Ray is jailed at Petros-- the Greek word for "stone" is petros. "Ball and chain/ fission" reference casts my thoughts back to Redstone/ Rothstone-- Redstone is a missile, carrying nuclear warhead, I believe.

Duncan/ RFK-- Duncan main character in macbeth. The Duncan figure in macbird corresponds with RFJ. In Macbird the Duncan figure takes revenge for the murder of his brother. I may have this wrong. I think Duncan was the brother, but he may have been the murdered king. correction: Duncan was the king; macduff the brother.

My impression is that the writer is not a fool. Maybe a crank, maybe nuts, but not stupid. An educated person. More reading of his stuff may disclose the nature of his education. more on this later.

petros/ stone: Jesus to Peter: "Upon this rock (petros in the Greek version) I build my church." Peter's name means "stone". It was not his real name, but he assumed it as an alias later in life.

I note that you saw the reference to Luke 19:40 in 1940 Luke St.

I note also a confidential memo noting "stone" references in various places. Perhaps I shall see a few more when I get to reading the message carefully-- as yet I have gone over it only once.

Master of horse: This makes me think of the Roman magistracy entitled magister equitum, described as follows in the Oxford Classical Dictionary: "MAGISTER EQUITUM, or master of the horse, was a subordinate official, nominated by every dictator on appointment, originally to control the cavalry, but, in later practice, to represent the dictator either on the field of battle or at Rome. He held derivatory imperium (supreme administrative power--RB) from the dictator and ranked with the praetors." There is a bit more, but not especially interesting to you.

drugs: ~~FWXXNF~~ HR suggested heroine for "horse". How about "night's pot" for nightspot? Also "hashed" as in hashish.

Sande: why the "e" at the end? Maybe this is supposed to sound like sandy. Anybody related to this mess with the nickname Sandy?

Duncan: maybe not to be taken as a name, but as a statement, "Dun (phonetic) can." John Donne? (English poet). Responding to the question, "Can Mr. Weisberg translate?", the author replies, "Donne can." (??? !!!) I'm bound to read some Donne tonight-- will let you know if I spot anything

Ockie: a person from Oklahoma? Maybe this, too is not a name. Does the "ie" stand for "i.e."? Then we get "Ock, that is." O.C.K. "Oh, see K."

(Sorry for this bewildering sequence of flashes. They probably mean nothing, but perhaps in them you may see things that I miss.)

Vigoro: in Latin this means: (active sense) "I animate, I ~~invigoro~~ invigorate, I am stout, lusty, vigorous;" (netral sense) "I am becoming becoming strong, I am gaining strength."

Barnstable: Barnes' table. I don't know any Barnes, or any reason why Barnstable should not mean Barnstable, except that it sounds like Barnes' table. I don't get any "vibrations" from Constable-- well, maybe con's table (convictis). Probably some cop, though, or something cop-related.

tona: This is a verb in Latin (from tono, tonare); it's mood is imperative, as in giving a command. It means "thunder, make a loud thundering noise, roar, etc."

Wasn't Lee in Irving's bedroom?: Here's another sound*alike: ~~Wasn't Lee~~ Wasn't Lee enervating (hi)s bedroom? Means nothing to me, but I offer it as an alternative to Irving's (Texas) bedroom. The Texas bedroom seems the obvious reference, but our author seems charry with obvious references.

De plain?: If this is meant as French, it may have been formed corruptly on the analogy of de trop ("too much"), and might ~~therefore~~ therefore mean "too plain, too simple, too easy, or--perhaps-- too flat, too level?"

Hashed tona on wheat: {supposing "hashed" is a participle meaning "high on hashish", and that "tona" is to be regarded as Latin} then this "translates" to: Hashed, thunder loudly on wheat-- which makes as much sense to me as hashed tona on wheat, with spinich, yet.

more later.

Dick

Weird, but fascinating.