

Dear Jim,

3/7/75

As the day wears on I find that I'm either worried or discouraged or depressed by the newest of insinuations on last night's ABC airing plus what I've learned in one phone call today. It is only a little after 9:30 and as distinguished from physically tired I'm weary, particularly after this one call. It won't last for it never does.

My first inkling of the O'Tools + promotion of Monday was from an old friend, an authentic conservative as distinguished for a backward looking ignoramus, Steve Barber, London Daily Telegraph DC bureau chief, by proxy. He was away but today he is the one of his bureau in and he has three major stories to file, so I cut it short. He had had one of his staff phone me day before yesterday.

I suggested to Betty Yaklavich that she call Bud and gave her the number. Was my instinct ever right?!!

Now it turns out that Bud, who from your account is wholeheartedly into this play, pretended isolation, ambiguity and no more than rumor as information, that it was to promote some kind of book of which he had no knowledge and in which he had no interest. He went to far as to indicate no real knowledge of O'Tools: Steve would not lie about this.

I waited only long enough to give her a chance to call Bud before I placed the call that resulted in the "in conference" report from Lakoy. "In conference" for two days?

At some point I'm not going to be able to restrain myself with and about him. Don't worry: it isn't yet. But the time is coming when I may be tempted to do what could be a very commercial book long in my thoughts, tearing these crannies up. That could be published!

The close combination of all my fears being right in his copping out in the Ray case and this newest stupidity/age trip are a pretty heavy load from which not to vent!

On this, by the way, when you see him you might tell him that I'm curious about some of Schoenmann's sources and is he in fact one? One of the things Schoenmann used I can conceive of no other. On another, he is the most obvious and the ethical and moral lapses are even after all this long history a new shock. He might well know if he confirms it himself as source or not.

(I have resisted the temptation to write him, thus far.)

Not until last night did I get to read the Post's Colby stories. I just don't feel like writing memos you'll not take time to read anyway. So, I tell you that I have them mounted and segregated and that I have marked them up. It would be very good if we had someone who could do the leg-work of getting texts of these statements. I've marked up that part of Colby's printed in the Post. It ~~really~~ confirms all I've been saying. And if it means anything relevant, Warner has either lied or what amounts to the same, resorted to farout semantics with us.

There are a number of places I've marked - I don't remember especially after several unpleasant phone calls about the fraud in my car repair that have interrupted this - where it could be a semantics business, where they have to have files but use a special designation to say they have none by merely calling it other than what they chose to mean by "surveillance."

Bella Absug was quite good on Today today. From it, the stories and what I'd assume from the past have to be interceptions on my mail. All have to do with first-amendment rights, or where I was doing something for USIA.

Aside from what I told you about London I've made efforts for publication with both Germanys (thefts also with both, of mail, rather with both in West Germany only), Russia (where the correspondence is quite opposite CIA interest!), Czechoslovakia, Italy and Spain. Also France. Think they don't have anything when the final book says Oswald was a speak? Mexico, Belfrage, who has yet to acknowledge receipt of WW IV. Japan, too. And I have assurances from the Post Office that there was none of this plus a clear fraud case they accepted and then returned, the package still sealed as they mailed it.I think maybe a package.

Colby's testimony, if we can get it, seems to go into all the evasions.