

9/16/74

Dear Bill,

If I remember your plans, this should still reach you before your return. Oops! Your desk! I have delayed sending the enclosed in the hope of being able to enclose a printed copy of the book. But there have been delays in manufacture.

The Tuteur report on Ruby and his allegation of conspiracies has notes added in longhand that are not part of his statement and should not be considered. While as you can understand I can't tell you my source I can tell you, really assure you, these things: it was not stolen by me or anyone else; it comes from Tuteur's own files, his personal copy, that is. Were we face-to-face I'd be more informative. But it is authentic, beyond question. I have a covering letter I'm not including. This is confidential.

Were I able to write in the style your readers prefer I'd still be reluctant to do a draft on this because I don't know how much or what kind of play you'd want. I can see more than one piece. While it should bear a by-line other than mine and I should be given no association with it to protect my source, I can add some provocative material, ^{some} ~~some~~ of which you'd be interested in personally and probably not want to use and some that is a separate sensation, if I understand what you could find appealing. I do regard this as a major addition and a scoop. Except for my source, I can discuss all this freely by phone. Including an astounding parallel death everyone has missed. However, I would like to hear from you as soon as possible on this because I've not whispered a word to anyone else - and surely would.

It is for reasons of style and lack of knowledge of the play you'd give that the Marlan piece is longer than I think you'll consider. (I also had in mind that if you do not go for it I might want to submit it elsewhere.) I dashed it off as soon as we spoke because there are in my life at the moment pressing other matters, resistance to the defense and court-ordered discovery in the Ray case, with an evidentiary hearing scheduled for a month hence; and the unexpected problems in getting the book out. (Again I have made no effort to seek any subsidiary rights to any other part of the print media. The TV net is still interested, still undecided.) First they shot the negatives too large, cutting parts of pages off. Then instead of making a set of blues for me to check and approve the printer went ahead and printed, ruining two sigs or 2/7 of the paper. In one he had a page upside down, in the other four pages out of sequence. Meanwhile, I had to go off on a trip. I was as close as Orlando but you were away. So he has printed and the book is in the bindery and my sleep is not as untroubled as it once was until I seek a copy!

You will be sent the first book off the bindery. The young lawyer who is handling my Freedom of Information suits and the one that yielded this has your address and will do this, addressed to you personally. I will be impatient for your word on this, too, because I think it is a major expose, more than one and again I have made no other approach because I think that in this we have a community of interest. I need what you can pay and I think you need some real stuff to take their heavy play away from Tatler. (It may not interest you, but their stuff is crap. They don't care that it is, either.)

The one Jaworski letter in the appendix is a tiny fraction of my file on him and the fake Texas inquiry he ran. There can be in it what I regard as a major story with heavy appeal, particularly in Texas.

The situation on the Ray case is touchy for me because while I have not used it publicly I am his investigator and it is my investigation and the legal work of my younger colleague in this coming book that has taken us to where we are, on the verge of a sensational success that can be aborted only by incredible corruption or murder. However, I think I can safely give you three sensational exposes, of Percy Foreman,

where more than one is possible; OF WILLIAM BRADLORD HUIE; and OF VERDOLAN. Frank is working on a half-million advance deal on a Judy Garland book which is ~~now~~ expected to make a movie and heavier money.

It is too bad that we are not closer together so you can see the documentation I have. This even includes a new Huie bribe to Ray to lie and confess to save Huie's ~~face~~ face and reputation. After we won in court. If you missed it, we have been upheld to the Supreme Court. Including it.

There is so much I have that does not involve any confidential relationship.

Even an untold story on how one of Ray's brothers was framed and put away under conditions that almost resulted in his assassination in Leavenworth. He was charged with driving the getaway car in a bank robbery. He is the only one in jail on this and the guy who actually did the job was permitted to keep the loot.

Anyway, if the Tatler is giving you competition and you want to clobber them, I think I can make it possible. With what is both sensational and solid, not with the kind of crap I've been sent of what they've printed.

Hope you had a good vacation. Look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,