5/29/70

Memo on DJ phone call on King/Ray material

For all the world as though it were spontaneous, the consequence of the slow but unconnected working of bureaucarcy, I got a phone call about 11 a.m. Wednesday (5/27) from a women who said she was Rolapp's office calling to tell me the material I requested was there for me "with two exceptions".

These "exceptions", it turned out, were not that they were not giving me two things I requested, but first, I'd have to pay for them, $9.50, and second, the pictures would take an added three weeks. She could not tell me the cost of the pictures. So, I asked her to find this out, phone Bud, whose name and number I gave her, and he'd send a check immediately so either he could pick these papers up of they could be sent to me.

Saying she would, she didn't, as I learned from Bud the next day.

Because of the delay in the pictures, they made xeroxes of those pages, for which I thanked her.

Now it happens this is either a remarkable coincidence, it having been three weeks since the promised access and about two weeks since I'd given them about 10 minutes of xeroxing to do. Paul Valentine phoned me Tuesday, the day before, to get my okay on his going and asking to see the file. I said okay, with Bud's agreement and his that he'd not use other than what I'd promised him. He did go there, as Bud told me later.

So, this new thing, Justice doings something without being blasted, seems not to have been spontaneous but caused by fear of newspaper reaction to their continuing delays and stallings.

Had she done as she promised, and as is proper, for they have not yet told me how much the pictures will cost, I'd have had these pages by now.