



1/2/69

Dear Vince,

While I have a few minutes I cannot efficiently use for other purposes, let me save you a phone call and bring you up to date.

I have written Penn rather mildly chiding him. It serves no purpose to do more, for he is as bullheaded as he is of honorable intent. How many roads to hell are there to be paved?

The little time I can spend on "Hapburn" continues to produce results. I am learning more of him and his connections. Not enough, but more. A copy of his film seems to have been adopted by one of "us", and I know no more, save that it was not in New Orleans. There may be reason to suspect someone with whom you were once friendly with involvement with him. I do not tell you more because I do not want you to telegraph it. Please be absolutely quiet about this. Also, I emphasize that there is now at most only enough to warrant suspicion, no more.

Burton has levelled, voluntarily sent his credentials in when I asked him, as Jaffe had offered to, and has sent me what information he has. I have asked this of Jaffe - and that is asking much of anyone in his spot, especially the kind of kid he is - and he has not responded.

On Boxley again. As you know, I did not believe he had to be an agent. However, I must acknowledge that while I am still not convinced he is or has to be (for there is no difference in effect), what he has done with Penn is consistent with his being one. Also, Penn's article has a considerable amount of reporting carefully kept from the files.

My last information from N.O. is that they are proceeding with their preparations, expect to have them completed in a week (hence I remind you again of the memo on conspiracy I asked for), and that the judge has let it be known they will all work hard. He has set a six-day schedule of 9-5:30, with an hour and a half off for lunch. The day of rest will be from 1:30-5:30. And this will run, if necessary, through Mardi Gras.

Shaw's lawyers filed three motions yesterday: Change of venue, to be argued Friday, specifying the Hsbinghorst thing even I expected, and one of each of the two Jim's press conferences; to quash; and to continue bail during trial (not opposed). Fred Leemans appeared in the office voluntarily to lament in an affidavit his lying on NBC, specified it was the result of persistent anonymous threats against him and his family, accompanied by forceful visits from WRS, and that he yielded to the phoned advice and went to Dymond, who told him to call day or night, not to worry about a lawyer or bail if Garrison should get after him, and sent him to Sheridan - who then taped him in Aaron Kohn's office with Dy. present.

I have completed all the memos asked of me on witnesses, have a few others to do, and then must begin the expensive task of copying files I should take. I have little indication of what they may want, which means more money and more time that may both be wasted. I have arranged, after consultation, for Wecht and Nichols to be the autopsy expert witnesses. They have again subpoenaed the pix and X-rays. In the very few minutes I have been able to find for my own work I have obtained what even the ultraconservative Hoch says is the most culpable, damning thing yet, and you know some of what I have that is unpublished (we simply must find some way of getting this stuff out). It will fit beautifully in AGENT OSWALD. Best regards,