

10/2/69

Dear Gary,

The enclosed letters to N.O. are for your information only. From the distance and without any contact with anyone there, I may read the campaign wrongly, but I have confidence in my appraisal and analysis. I see signs of Connick's Washington support and I believe it will end with a variant of red-baiting for which there will be no preparation and little, if any, time for response. Mark, Mort and I are the most likely means, Matt is possible in a special variant. If there is any response at all, I'll let you know. For those using this there will be a double edge, with the benefit of the immunities granted by a political campaign.

Lil has been rather slow in retyping the ms. Ssh hasn't been well, but has had no worse than an almost constant headache and spells of dizziness. I presume they are of emotional origin, from the problems that beset us. But whether she has it finished by then or not, I am going to New York later this month for a lunch meeting with a small publisher, new as a published but long experienced as the executive of another publishing house (a large one) and Ron Hobbs. I'd heard nothing from Hobbs, so finally I phoned him yesterday. His British rep will also be there.

With the return of the two Thunderbolts under separate cover, I believe I have now sent back everything you asked me to return.

It could be the lack of need, as he sees it, but I regard Jim's defensive campaign, the absence of any real campaign, with deep misgivings. I can only wonder which will be more hurtful to us, his defeat or his re-election. Each alternative has built in many difficulties and hazards. And we now know he is still on the assassination kick, still outside his jurisdiction.

If I wrote you about the book "Jack Ruby- the man who killed the man who killed Kennedy", I found it is still available and have ordered it, so do not go to any trouble to get it. I have no reason to believe it has worthwhile content, but believe one of us should read it.

Hope your exam preparations are going well.

Best,
H