7/17/69

Dear Gary,

The enclose to Dick requires no explanation, unless you can remember the doctor's name. I will, eventually.

Most of your 7/15 I had anticiapted and addressed. I would have been surprised is Mayy had written you any other kind of letter. She was thoroughly prejudiced in advance!

For your concern about my health: have an appointment for Tuesday to consult with the doctor to whom I wrote, the one I have chosen to be the equivalent of my family doctor in GHA, out medical coop, which is becoming more and more of a financial burden as it more and more mismanages to get bigger for no other reason than bigness. I am subsidizing all sorts of well-paid people not requiring any subsidy, mine or others'. If he feels any tests are required, he'll order them then. I'll let you know.

One of my possible flaws that I think Garrison understood early is, I think, not a flaw but paranoids wince at it. I trust everyone until I have very good reason not to, and even then I sometimes trust some partly. I was aware the instant Patsy phoned me at WLOL that he could be a plant. Some of those who've called in "questions" have been, I am satisfied. So what if he is? I had a dupe of the film. I was aware of the possibility something could go wrong, so I made two copies. You have one and if you have any desire on to it, by all means do. I haven't looked at the other since I left N.O. and have no immediate need for it. So he is an informant of some kind. And he tells them we are interested in the WDSU film. They have learned nothing. That they knew from me at the Archives anyway. And undoubtedly from other things. They have to be nuts to think we are not interested in everything. Let him be whatever he might be. That ought not keep you from using whatever services he/they are kind enough to offer. Just do not give him only copies (unless you want to test him sometime and tell him one is when it isn't. Get a couple of prints of one of the Betzner shots if you get them and let him go to it work on the window, thinkingit is the only copy anywhere. If he looses it, you should wonder. I wondered, as I am sure you did, when you told me of the missing WDSU footage. We agree on approach, and I <u>do</u> something about it whenever I can. Remember my asking the Student Union rep to please dub a copy of the tape of my speech as soon as we were told there were tapers in the audience? Then I announced it. I also tell it to people privately, as you do, except your line about getting the loot to a friend is an improvement over mine. But the important thing is for this to be real, not a line, not an approach. It gives great peace of mind and it is the right approach. While there are some things we learn we should keep tight until the proper moment, we should always say and mean thatbwe want the government to know, because we do want them to do something. You have seen my offers in writing. Just be sure that inside you feel that way. It is much better, more comfortable, and completely right and proper....I had my original work on Altgens done by a former FBI agent in business for himself, the same guy to whom the Archives farms out their work. Maybe he didn't do the best possible job for me (I think the lab man, a black, did), but what he did is good enough. So what if he told everyone? What other purpose did I have in publication? The worst that could happen is that a defense could be prepared. The worst is not as bad as the self-crippling of the paranoia. ...I don't bother testing anybody. Let'em.

Be careful of any political sensibilities Mary may have. She calls herself conservative. She certainly isn't at all radical, I have found muc common ground, as without doubt you have, with genuine conservatives. Only Sue is said to be radical.

Still have a good trip!

UNIVERSITY OF *Minnesota*

MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455

July 15, 1969

Dear Harold,

Thanks for the info in your letter of 7/12 and getting me set up with Mary Farrell. She just wrote me a warm letter and invited me to stay with her. It sounds like she will be a good person to trade info with. She has done all kinds of photography work for Fred and he thinks she is great. Her letter to me was very warm and she sounds like she would do just about anything for you.

In a recent letter, which I can't locate now, you asked about the film from WDSU. In my last letter I meant to write you about it but forgot. Mike located it and I have it so I can send it anytime you want it, or get more work done on it anytime you want. I don't know quite how to begin a discussion on this topic, but as I think I indicated before, I don't completely trust Mike. Mike, with whom I have spent much time, and his wife are very likeable and friendly people, and I greatly appreciate all the work he has done for us. But he makes me uneasy. First of all, he is struggling very hard to become rich, and virtually working day and night on all kinds of crazy deals to make money. He is very much an opportunist. Well, what would happen if someone approached him and asked him for that film. The local FBI, for instance, who undoubtedly monitor my phone, must have heard your call from N.O., and may have wanted the film to have it worked on, not knowing that it was easily obtainable. Remember, the only theft of my files which I am absolutely certain of was the robbing of my Ferrie file which contained only FBI reports from the archives. Mike's losing of the film was inconceiveable at the time, given the fact that I had told him that it was very important, very secret, and the only one of its kind. It floored me that he could have let it out of his sight, and yet at the time he was vague about whether it had been stolen and left open the possibility that he had misplaced it. He reacted in some ways in an unusual fashion, but it would be exceedingly difficult for me to explain why I feel that way. He seemed far more guilt ridden then the situation would require, especiallygiven my care not to express any anxiety over it or distrust of him. Still, now, he seems a bit uneasy—something which I did not detect when we first me. When I use my standard line for possible elicitation of anxiety in people who may be informants but also friendly, he responds unmistakeably with anxiety and worry, and can't look me in the eye. (This test, whose validity I wouldn't want to bet on, goes something like this: "You know, the thing that kills me is that the god damn FBI wastes so much of our tax money on obtaining info about the work of people like me, when in many cases they could get it from me by just directly approaching us. If they really car then I would be only too glad to give them investigative leads They pay people to tape public speeches which is really crazy, since I would let them tape openly or provide them with a tape if they wanted it. In fact, I wish that some of my friends would do the informing so that if the money has to go to someone, at least some of my friends could be the beneficiary rather than some dreg of society who was recruited from a bar, etc." The main peint I get across is that I take informing lightly and see it as silly, and wouldn't even mind setting up a conspiracy with one of my friends to get him some income. If there is any guilt being felt about informing, then the person should get a bit anxious, since I do it in a context that a guilty person might take as a sly indication on my part that I suspect. Mike's inability to look me in the eye during such times really disturbs me a bit, because his eye contact is otherwise fine.) Well, I don't want to get paranoid, and can't think of anything we shouldn't send him to do anyway and think that such a suspicion, even if we share it, would not change things much, but have vascillated about telling you about the return of the film (which I have had for about a week) until I could figure out how to put this in writing.

We will be stopping in Kansas City to try to see Betzner's father who has both a negative and large print of Betzner 3. I spoke with Don on the phone today and that is set. What about seeing Nichols? Would anything be served by it. Is there a chance that we could camp out in his living room or something like that. We will probably take sleeping bags anyway. That would save money. Give me your opinions if you have time to write in time for me to receive your letter in time to at least phone Nichols. If you think that there is a chance, please send me his phone number. Right now it looks like Olson will fly out here this Monday and that we will begin driving on Tuesday, so anything which you send me after getting this letter, as long as it is sent airmail, should arrive by Sat. or perhaps Monday.

I am going crazy trying to get things ready for the trip, and at the same time trying to find time to begin studying for prelims. If I am not prepared for them I will be in bad shape this fall.

Well, I'd better get this into the mail. Best wishes.

Gary