4/15/69

Dear Gary,

Whether or not you can do anything about the last paragraph of the attached, I wish you would try. I mentioned it before. That deal Vince made. If was on the basis that I was indispensible, that my expenses were guaranteed and I was assured every effort would be made to pay me for the time. I have raised no question about the time and didn t then. That was the unsolicited sweetening. But I had before then insisted I could not continue to go further in debt to do the work everyone else abdicated. The previous trip I had even phoned Vince from N.O. and told him this. I also did on the last one and then left when the money for my expenses was not forthcoming. When I left I said there were conditions for my return and specified them, the first being the payment of the expenses, to be and already incurred. There is no question of this and anyone who says otherwise is knowingly untruthful.

Now in December I had no intentions of ever going there again. That was something Vince cooked up. He is very good at loading me down with an incredible amount of work, and as you may remember from the memos you go, which reflect only part of it, I did so much I still cannot believe it - and have not yet recovered from it. Vince made this deal, gave me his word, and I should be able to take his word, as he should keep it. Regardless of why it wasn't kept, he has his responsibility. He made the deal and gave me the assurance. It is hardly enough for him to do nothing or what he promised me when I raised the question with him, that he'd write them a letter! Without his assurance I would not have done what I did, spent the money or made the trips.

If he were in financial condition like mine, I'd feel badly only about his irresponsibility. But, fortunately for him, he is not. It is absolutely immoral of him to have gotten me into this and then shrugged it off.

At the very least, if he cannot get the money from them, he should advance it, to be repaid only after they have repaid me all they owe me.

I cannot tell you how badly I feel about this unending exploitation, when I have to go into debt, do without things, worry about how I am ever going to pay the debt off and four times a year how I'll pay even the interest. Everyone party to it knows my situation. And I am bitter that Lil is the ultimate victim of this rotten business. It is worse than indecent and immoral.

You may not succeed, but please try.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

4/15/69

Dear Gary,

Thisxis to tell you that a copy of COUP is on the way. If this time "Special Handling" is what is paid for rather than the special kind of service I usually get, it may have reached you before you get this.

The enclosed letter to Peul may not mean anything to you in some places, but some of it may make sense.

Looking forward to getting back onto the writing of the Epilogue to COUP. That's goingxto be a very thick book, with that and the appendix. I think I'll make that part 2, or break the book down into more parts.

Nothing new. Have a good (and successful!) time.

Sincerelyx

4/13/69

Dear Gary,

I have spent several hours this morning searching for that Thornley material. I do not find it. However, it is still possible that I have it and do not recall it, for in this search I did not turn up the word by word comparison of the book and testimony I had begun.

I have checked every one of my organized files and those not yet carded in which it might be - or those that I can think of, without thumbing through every file.

There is a by-product. I have organized my Thornley material.

I have also gone through my Newcomb file. That also was rewarding, for it reminds me of those things about which I have been seeking to warn you. You will be disgusted when you see what he wrote me about Lifton, then continues to associate with him. Or what he wrote Garrison and me about his giving the material to Thornley's lawyer, well aware of the probability it would be misused against me. Or what he then wrote about it, saying how innocent it was. How he continued to be friendly toward me, expressing all sorts of respect and admiration until that point at which he dedided he had to dislike me, for whatever unknown reason. This is a strange man with whom I urge you to be careful. I repeat this because when you see this file you will have no doubt.

You will find that he did this 133 work for me, that I gave him the pictures, and his thanks-and now he will not even let me see it?

That I warned him of Rose, pointing out my recollection of the Wilson picture (I, not he or Burton, got those pictures from Howard when all the rest had failed 100% with him, as with mall). My recollection is that I did this while I was staying with him, but there is no dount I also did it in writing two weeks after I was there. He then wrote me that when Jaffe brought Rose to him he confirmed. My "uncooperativeness" is reflected by my giving them everything, the tapes, the pictures and files, depending upon them to make copies for me-and that part they did send me took months and months of naggingto get. Yet he never in any way mistrusted any of them, especially not Turner and Jaffe.

Or his positive "proof" that Willis 5 exactly coincides, as he put it, with Z 205, when Willis is no longer in the frame, has moved away, having taken his picture. Or the bullet hitting the sign. I urge you to examine his work with the deepest apprehension, no matter how persuasive it may seem.

In the course of checking through my correspondence with you, on the chance I might have misplaced this material there, I found yonr note about CD 131, 2 pp. Did you ever get them?

Hurriedly,