1/4/71

Gary,

The enclosed unpleasantness is not merely a catharsis. I do not think I intend it as such. I admit I hope it can have some such effect. I just feel as though too many people have been heaving shit at me for too long. I have not been able to communicate it, but trying to hold Bud to the rational has been exhausting and painful, aside from what you have any way of knowing. If this rather exceptional thing I've done for him on Ray isn't fucked up already, it isn't his fault. Je has done, fepeatedly, the kind of unconscionable things of which I'd never consider him capable, and such stupidities! I prevented one more with so severe a hassle in his office right before his Xmas party that he walked out of it. But, I succeeded, and he, although he will not tell me it, now shows he also realizes I was right. But can you imagine the toll all of this extracts?

For some time I have been concerned about Mary. She has never sent me anything of any value, when she came here, brought nothing of significance, promised me many things not one of which has come, and of all of which I've reminded her (as I now do you about the Nix). When you see what we have had done with Z, you'll understand what we are missing.

Before I forget, from now on assume that unless I say otherwise, anything I send you is going to you alone and you are to share it with nobody. Call me paranoid if you will, but things are worsening, seriously and fast, and we must, really must, proceed on a "need to know" basis plus one of trust. I cannot longe trust Paul's judgement. I should have reached t is decision when he gave Lifton what he got from me knowing he got it with the understanding I didn't want it. The possibilities of the Ferrie stuff that is really the result of enormous effort on my part, as what I've sent you should show, are enprmous. If they survive what Paul did, there is still that shoulder aggel. The catastrophy built in to Mitchell's personal declassificationnof the Vallee stuff is as great. All these things have got to stop if we are to survibe them.

I'm not writing or calling Mary again. If she returns the call, I'll tell her why I called. Part of it was worry about her and hers, having heard nothing for so long, especially when the last thing she said was that she was going to try and bring Buck up in October.

While I'm confessing worries, you can lay one to rest. I take your silence to be an indication that your analysis indicates you should be disassociating yourself from all or some of this work. If this is the case, I hope it will not trouble you to do what is indicated. Except to say at the beginning that you felt it was being helpful, you've said nothing more. I do not intend to pry, but if this has emerged, I hope you can accept it. Without qualm, without feeling of guilt. But let me know.

Please try and fill me in more on Ned. As does everything these days, it seems like much longer ago that he was here. It was three weeks ago today. I tend to find measurement in small things. I offered to lend him copies of the limited editions or to sell them if he so desired. He said he'd like to buy them, would preserve their contents in confidence, and asked if he could mail me a check. While it seemed improbable that a man of his means would travel without a checkbook -or would ask if I had a blank check, as I did - I let him have them. Three weeks is time enough for him to have though of sending me the check. Or to have been in touch with me abiut the other things he mentioned. I still do not know what his intentions are-even where he lives.

Hope you are okay. Let me know. Best,