5/15/71

Dear Gary,

Last evening Jerry phoned, about a variety of things. One of which he knew nothing is something he picked up from the publishers' secretary, who said she knew no more, having knowledge of only what she had heard David and Harris talking about. As he told me, it is something dirty Newsweek is up to. These people have an infinite capacity for repeating the same stupidities. They are both friends of Leonard, editor of the NYTimes Sunday book review. They had to have had advance copies of that Kaplan thing in advance and they never told me of it. It is available early and is sold separately, to such things as bookstores. If they'd tole me immediately, I could have shaken Leonard up earlier and harder, and whatever rectification he might consider would have appeared much earlier, if one appears at all, the time lag in itself mitigating against any. How this Newsweek think may be no more than refusal to print a favorable review, which I anticipate Geoffrey Wolff wrote before leaving. It may be more. So, with you having inferred, or at least with my having interpreted something you said as inference of this kind, that Ned has some connections there, I write for this purpose, so that he might make inquiry.

I alos have another. I preface it with the comment that he has made no comment on any of the limited editions he got when he was here, nor on FRAME-UP, did pay me for the limited editions, did add to that, but did not do what he said he would do, and that is to pay for the duplicate set of the declassified CDs. He did send me enough to pay for most. The balance is about $70.00. I am disappointed that he had no comment on either PM, that he has been so stingy with money after making a promise, based on which I made a commitment I could not otherwise have made (and this is worsened by the publishers not having paid what they owe me, which outs us in bad condition at the moment, with no propsect for improvement for the rest of the year). This is preface to something else I have in mind.

My work in several areas has developed well. I have not communicated it to you for several reasons, a couple of which are obvious: security, your preoccupations, and what I think is necessary for your health, some kind of respite from coping with all that is involved. I can be close to breakthroughs in the JFK and MLK cases. I will need both help and a trustworthy companion. Meaning not only one who can keep his mouth shut, but one who is not afraid of what is possible by way of hurt. Can he be candidate?

Did he ever tell you why, when he said he'd be here again in January, he has not come? and has not said he is not or why he didn't? This, in itself, does not trouble me, but I am curious. What I showed him should have turned him on. Or terrified him.

Sincerely,