

5/23/72

Dear Gary (no ccs.)

Glad to get urelt 19. Tried to phone Paul Valentine so he could speak to their science reporter, but he wasn't in. Your account of the meetings and the splattering on the fan (which hasn't reached here yet) are accounts of a legit story. Then I didn't call back because maybe you don't want a story?

I was away 5/6-12, got home to learn that Lil's sister's husband, father of the troubled boy, had died, then we were away evenings visiting them, Monday a.m. at funeral. I suppose you phoned just the few times we were away. Lil stayed close in because she celebrated my coming return by spraining the weak ankle again. Sorry we were not here.

Clare: one call after she left Chicago, then silence.

I told you long ago that Ned's wife was part of the problem. Without realizing it, he disclosed it so that Lil and I detected it, independently. Her interest is in enjoyment of his wealth and from this I presume his establishmentarian position also, requiring what she would regard as appropriate behavior and pure thoughts. He has not responded to the warning letter I sent him, but he has been a busy little beaver telling everybody things in confidence, including PH, who I warned he'd best wonder if it is really in confidence or for immobilization. I suggested that if he has any doubts, consult you, that Ned is the creature of emotional problem the consequences of which can hurt us.

I suggest, not for the first time, that your thesis and degree is your first obligation to everyone, including yourself. Paraphrase "olomious. So, whatever your decision, it should be the one that speeds or helps getting that paper fastest.

Everyone reached the same Bremer conclusion: at last we have the lone, unassisted not so long solicited or encouraged to surface in so sick a land. Again I have troubling doubts, in two areas: financing, where he clearly has spent more than he could have had without some kind of help, if only innocent borrowing; and the most thoroughly professional unprofessionalism by the police on all levels except in this burg just before and by the local county police where he did it. The FBI in particular, on all levels and in all areas, most flagrant of which are the utterly incompetent search of the car, the announcing of the false red scare again and the delay in reaching his apartment and then not taking everything or posting a guard. I did a piece for the Nat. Enquirer in which I could modify their doctrine enough.

No approach yet to Rappaport. Groh valueless. Your generalities are correct, but almost entirely eliminated by any accurate reading of even incomplete medical records. This all preceded any of my assassination work. Before the assassination. Began 1955 and signs recorded if not recognized by us within a couple of years. Even then there could have been other stresses, but I don't think so. No expert can say there were none, but we can testify and there'd be the obligation on the government to disprove. Besides, the shorthand of the first record a doctor recently found, two years after this began, reflects the three things together, my concern for Lil and what was happening to the business and one of the classic symptoms of anxiety, a feeling of weariness at a time when I worked like a horse and never lacked physical energy. My concern for Lil, obviously, was not that she was taking a club to me or growing a second head. The trouble, as you note, is the brevity of any records they made, when they made them, but this has to be a fair sample when they exist and the need of an expert is to interpret....I've been trying without success to get a better understanding of anxiety and how to cope with the stresses this trial and preparation will make inevitable. In the effort I saw the MD I consult and he explained about the hearing and feeling of the heartbeat, comprehensibly but other than you did. It is only when I'm in bed, most at rest, and only when I first get there. He said if I got out of bed and walked around a bit it would disappear. I haven't bothered. I take his word. I suspect my concern about the heart, which this seems to show, is a consequence of the life I've led in recent years, which would take the constitution of an ox, and the fact that

his first heart attack killed my father. Plus the development of occasional irregular beat at some time after the beginning of these stresses.

One of the confounding elements is not being afraid of what others are afraid of and fear for me about and yet being anxious about other things. Except for where it is free-floating, I can general correlate it with something, as the ultimate dirtiness of the feds in this case, getting started on it with the lawyer, his attitude. But about the assassination work, never, really, as a correlation. I am aware that I can be unaware, but the consumption of the tranquilizers I think will reflect this. In both of us. You know how I went around in H.O., where JG's people went in pairs and armed only; how I stayed in the home of a man who'd tried to kill JG and was then confined without habeas corpus for the security of the President; how I interviewed the ultra-right mercenaries in their homes and after dark (Larry Howard showed me his hidden Luger afterward, but I went back and got him and Hemming); and in general travel freely and by myself. So I know that with this not troubling me, not being afraid to be alone with felons in privacy and in jail, not eschewing a scrap with Stoner, not being afraid to be alone with, to room and travel with Jerry Ray and not, so far as I can recall, ever doing anything on work that made me afraid, I assume no correlation between fear in the usual sense and anxiety, at least as I know it. Until recently I had really thought that my anxiety was "il-oriented only, fear over what had happened and could happen to her, her reactions, etc.

Anyway, I'll have to sweat the expert out as best I can and I'll have to do most of the preparation of the case. I've been waiting to hear from the lawyer before writing Casey of Rappaport. I have Casey's address and can find R from the phone book. There must be some kind of record Casey left because without seeing Lil he prescribed Deprobamate and when he did see her with me he is the one who told us to get "il away from those associations

The copy you sent is what you recall. Glad to have it. Keep the original. If I forget, I'm filing this, of all the places I could, with my notes of that particular trip. If you have forgotten, that number had never been issued and the strange chick gave it to me as the one she claimed to have been given for emergencies and it did not switch to an intercept the many times I called it. Daytime only, as I look back after so many events. Weird still. And atop that what happened to my luggage, etc. Which reminds, Matt is back and in Calif.

The situation of the nephew is not simple. He feared taking his car to that part of DC nights to go to the free clinic. But that is not unreasonable. So I got him going to one in Rockville, Md., which is closer to home. Only, he always sees somebody else and says he feels this keeps him from getting anywhere. Now he has a job during the hours they have. I know he asked to see a straight shrink but after two visits got turned off, so intermittently he is aware and willing. I have been making a bit of progress, but as he came to understand that I understood, he began to duck me. I got him here this weekend and leaned on him a bit, and it seems to have worked, for he undid one thing he had done while he had earlier insisted he hadn't done it. I don't think there is anything unusual about his problems but fear they will become serious unless something is done. I am inclined to think I understand what they are and their root. But I know I can't be certain. He has a sentencing hearing Tuesday a.m. and we'll be there. I have been trying to get the lawyer to see to it that it include psychiatric treatment not because it might impel the judge to leniency but because it might assure it. He did not call me back last time I called him, but from something he told the mother last night I think he may plan it, so we'll get there early to help along with this. That stupid caper was letting himself be talked into others pulling a small heist and using his car for a getaway. He fantasized about even this to his lawyer (as he has to me of other things and greatly in excess of the norm for his age or possibility, for his fantasies include the physically impossible). Lil has often said she wished you could be here sometimes when he is because he might trust you and follow your recommendations. I don't think it would last, that he requires more motivation and when a low self-concept appears to be involved, I presume that can come only with more difficulty.

Anyway, thanks for the name. I'll have to find out if the DC clinic is open days and get him there if it is. Best regards from us both,

WALK-IN COUNSELING CENTER

2421 Chicago Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404

May 19, 1972

Dear Harold,

It's been a long time since I have written. I tried to call you several times a week ago, but your phone was either busy or there was no answer. I had only limited time to call, and could only try a few times. I was in Washington D.C but was racing around day and night, and always conferring with others. The occasion was a meeting, which we had to keep secret until the meeting itself, with the Sec. of HEW, Elliot Richardson. I was selected to represent walk-in counseling centers, and there were representatives from hotlines and crisis phone lines and runaway houses also. We were the guests of the Office of Youth and Student Affairs in HEW. The meeting was to brief the Secretary and to try to have input nationally. The 2 1/2 days I was there began early in the morning and kept up all night. I met with the staff of Cong. Frazer and Frenzl as well as Sen. Mondale, and met with Mondale himself. We met with the Juv. Delinquency subcommittee of the Senate and representatives of many HEW offices (Youth Devel. & Juv. Delinq. Prevention, Special Projects office of NIMH, Youth affairs of NIMH, etc. etc.) as well as the White House Special Action Office on Drug Abuse Prevention. We stayed with the Washington Runaway House people, and then with one of Frazer's aides who kept us up until 4AM briefing her. So, it was a hectic, non-stop attempt to have input and establish some liasons. I was frustrating to be that close to you and not be able to get in touch, let alone visit. But, as usual, it was last-minute in terms of the schedule and there was no way around that. We felt heard, and feel that something will come of the trip.

Meanwhile, back in Mpls. I have gotten more overburdened than usual. While desperately trying to get my dissertation underway work has piled up on all fronts, largely due to things outside my control. Our project director at the walk-in center had a traumatic breakup in her marriage and is getting a divorce, and a co-worker at the Mpls. Clinic had a serious leg infection and had to be hospitalized. So, again I am doing the work of others. In addition the final report, after much hectic work, of the Drug Council I am on is coming out. There will be a press conference this Monday. We tell it like it is and those public officials who have not been doing their job are enraged. Right now there are charges of conspiracy being made, including me of all people! So, countless phone calls and meetings have ensued to counter the backstabbing. Monday the shit will hit the fan, and hopefully our backers will stand with us on it. I'll send you a copy when they are available. For better or for worse it should be over in the next week.

I just heard from Paul for the first time in a while. He sounds fine but has been working hard also. Glad that the books arrived. I found them in the basement--sorry they were dirty. Even dirty ones are better than none at all!

I have had no time to get in touch with Ned. Had I had the time I would have spent it writing you instead. Getting home at 11 PM many nights, I just want to sit and relax and get a bite to eat.

As for Clare, I would be willing to help in anyway I can. Medical people are usually not very direct, and sometimes they do try to get rid of someone without ever directly confronting them. So, her story could be, at least in part, true.

The only name I know at the Washington Free Clinic is Dr. Murray Levine who directs their psych section. I don't know him, however, although I have heard good things about it. If he is there the main thing to do would be to say that he was referred by me to the Walk-In Counseling Center in Minneapolis--sometimes using the name of someone like me, even if they



community service by mental health professionals

don't know who I am, could make a difference. Something I learned a long time ago is that a referral from someone else in the business puts people on their toes in any medical or para-medical field. Wouldn't be surprised if it were that way in law either.

I have not heard from Hal but assume that he is hard at work in his ever-expanding comics business. I plan to write him soon to see how he is.

Ned's wife does put him under pressure. Someone called me last week who was in my old assassination inquiry committee who had been in touch with him by phone. He told them that he could only show the assassination slides when his wife wasn't around.

I got my taxes done, and just got my refund, and it does not look like there will be an audit, even though I did them on my own. I plan to file an amended return as soon as the IRS sends me copies of last year's return which I lost and I find some time to do it.

After the last three or more months of continuous fight to get the walk-in center refunded, it looks like we will get the money. Now I am struggling with a decision about whether to continue in the same job or not. The problem is simple. I have not yet gotten my dissertation underway and am wondering about going back to my clinic job half-time. Since I am doing a dissertation on walk-in clinics, however, there is some sense in working there, even though it would be full time. At present I am very conflicted--neither decision will be ideal in terms of a solution to my present dilemma.

I guess that you're not far from the Wallace incident. While the guy sounds like a nut, the difference between he and someone like Sirhan, who is also a nut, is that he clearly was at the end of his tether, with only a few dollars in his pocket. It is interesting to note that the National character, as usual, is reflected in the mentally ill. We have more violent crimes committed by people who flip out than other countries do--something not surprising given the thin line between sanity and insanity.

Well, I hope that this finds you and Lil in good health and spirits. I've got to go now.

cc: Paul, Jerry, Hal, Dick

Gary

PS: Your 4/13 got lost in the huge pile of correspondence I have not answered (almost all non-assassination stuff, by the way). I don't know anything about either of the men you mentioned (Greh and Rapaport). Legally you will have real problems, though, even with Casey around. In court they would belabor you on the assassination work and its frustrations, as well as how it feels to be poor, etc. You have had a rough life--let's face it, and there are too many easily understandable causes of stress to separate out the helicopters as a causative agent. While I am not doubting their significance, I myself tend to see them as only one of many difficulties with which you and Lil have had to cope. Were they to put me on the witness stand, in all honesty I would have to testify that there are many stresses that you have been under. So, although you may be right, as is often the case when one deals with the law, I doubt that you will be able to prove it.

The non-existent medical records are no surprise to me--even a place like the Mayo clinic does not keep 100% complete records. Places like group health programs don't write down 50% of what transpires. It is cheaper and easier not to. One of the problems doing hospital consults is that the patient's chart usually is lacking most information, including often the most pertinent stuff. With anxiety sometimes it doesn't appear on the record so that no one in the future thinks the person is screwed up or neurotic. Things related to sex are not on there nor are illegal acts because of possible social consequences. Hearing your heart beat is a symptom of anxiety--you are tuning into a sound you usually hear but ignore--it is common.