

5/25/70

Howard (Dick),

Great that you sent me the Skolnick-KHJ transcript. I use most of my dwindling supply of 3M paper to copy it. I then annotated that copy and phoned KHJ not saying I got it. They are going to reread transcript and I am to phone them again pursuant to this proposition: they air me in refutation of what is in the transcript only, sending me and Skolnick tapes, and giving him my challenge to a direct, live confrontation by conference phone to be aired without editing.

We'll see what happens. They are reluctant because it makes them look bad, but I think I've persuaded them it doesn't but even if it does they'll look worse if they do not air the other side. I', sending the transcript directly to Dick, for you said that when I returned it to you, you'd send it to him. At some time in the future I'd like a clean copy which would have no markings I added in case I want to use it in facsimile. I had to annotate it on the chance they'd air me when I phoned. This has happened before.

You might ask again for the references to the CDs. It might be important. You can be assured Fred and Lifton work together, for whatever purposes. What Lifton is offering you is, as I indicated, dated and worthless, but unless there is something else you want more, I suggest you accept it. I'd very much like a copy of his six-page self-glorification so I can determine what he is up to and what parts may present jeopardy. I suggest you send one to Dick also with his asking, and thermofaxes will do. This will cost you almost nothing.

That the documents attached to the suit seem not to be directly from COUP is for this reason: I asked another to make the same requests I did of the Archives, on the chance they'd get what I didn't or that they'd get more immediate service. They added certain markings to their copies and then made a copies for me. When I sent Russ copies of the docs to help him investigate for me, I used these which were duplicates where I had them, now a fortunate accident. Incidentally, Russ, who knows nothing about the Archives and misunderstood me, wrote on what Skolnick used as Exhibit I that this had just been declassified by the Archives within the past six months or so. Obviously, I didn't want that in his suit. Examine his ex x and you'll see he cut the entire FBI letterhead off so he could pretend I was his own (nonexistent) investigation that turned up this startling "new information", and all that about the non-existent index. Want more? I'M just not taking time for it. The same is true about the Chicago docs, where he not only reproduced an added mark but even used the same wrong sequences in which I had accidentally stepped them. Johnson confirms he never asked Archives ever for anything. Bud is Skolnick's source on Hurt, but not as Skolnick used it. I've had this for at least two years. Hurt's only intelligence connection was WWII, soldier, and he has spent most of the time since then in various troubles and institutions. He must have phoned LHO collect, a contingency for which the forms do not provide. Bud got this by accident and coincidence and it is not in any official records because the person who gave it to him got it from the other phone operator, who took it from the wastebasket as a souvenir and in so doing got the wrong form. Or, you might write Skolnick and ask him the CD question and let him refer you to the suit, then ask again not for that number but for the CD identification, telling him the second time you'd like to get your own clearer copies and see if you can find more because of your own familiarity with the Archives...The friend, who was a good one and a fine guy, may no longer be. Perhaps you can now better understand some of the potential for the alert but underinformed in certain aspects and some kinds of relationships.

Dicks mailings postmarked 19,20, here. No mail embargo as of this minute Mayhew: you were right. I've had no answer either. Methinks his interest is ganzerschmalz not fleisch. Fragmentation: I meant if fragmentation took place off r hit, as

of bone. Bieberdorff: complete agreement. As I recall without checking, this is what I said. I'll check when I can, and I've put this with the test citations and possible interpretations of them.

There is more on the Ray suit, like non-deliberate documents, which pleases me much. They are setting a record called "Paint Myself Blacker".

Mayhew again: your reasoning was correct, mine, based upon the inferences he has a relative who was in the SS escort and this is part of the reason for his expressed doubts, was wrong and now seems to be proved so.

Nothing else newsworthy.

Sincerely,