

26 June 1977

Dear Harold -

I am enclosing a bunch of clippings on the Committee's doings and the Ray escape. I hope you will find some of them helpful.

Unfortunately, my work on my thesis came to a halt last April with my Mother's unexpected and very much unexplained death. It has only been within the past week that things here have settled down to a point where I can think about getting back to work on it. To help get me going again on my dissertation, I had planned to audit a course at Boston University on political assassination given by none other than Mark Lane. But, hours before the first class was to meet, he pulled out of the whole thing, and the university was forced to cancel the course. I thought that was rather poor of him. I noticed he's been getting a very bad press lately, and that you have been written about quite favorably - NYT, June 6. I located a copy of Graham Allison's book on the Cuban Missile Crisis and will send it to you if you are still interested in reading it.

sincerely,

Nancy

Dear Nancy,

7/8/77

I'd wondered at your long silence and whether your moth had been ill again or had died. I'm sorry.

There seems to have been some kind of complication in my own health situation. Perhaps an arterial problem in addition to that with the vein, past and present or here and gone. It limits me much compared to the past.

Lament not your inability to audit Lane. Instead count your blessings. He is a walking encyclopaedia of misinformation, to quote Howard Roffman. Between his artificial and carefully ~~for~~ constructed reputation as an expert, which he is not, his by now natural messianic projection and the general lack of detailed factual knowledge it has become the realities that he is the foremost corrupter of the nation mind on this technical subject. This means more than errant officialdom because by now most people have come not to accept official pronouncements on this.

I can understand your disappointment and your considering this "rather poor" of him but you have lost nothing, gained something, and in terms of his everyday ethic this is not really poor.

As a matter of fact, knowing that he warrants a bad press, he has with some skill converted this into a self-sales device. The press is corrupt, the press is against him, ergo, he is good and it is bad. The press is like all else, something good, sometime bad.

In time I would like to read the Graham Allison book on the Cuba Missile Crisis not now unless I can buy this from you. I might read it in starts and snatches. Unless I could mark it up, which I would not dream of doing with the book or another, I'd rather wait until someone can find a copy being remaindered inexpensively.

Clippings are always valuable for the ~~for~~ future. Thanks for the coming Nancys.

Except for current developments the restrictions combined with the volume and scope of my own work means I file these only. Each time wishing I had a strong young mind in a strong young body to help. And not only with this. But if I could find one I could not pay for the services.

Reminder: there is now a court record relating to the executive session transcripts besides 2052-73. They now put the year first so it is 75-1448. I am keeping a file on the court records, as is Jim Lesar.

We have been compelling to obtain a modern copying machine and we find it quite good. When you go over my records you will be able to make copies. You will not be limited to note-taking. We estimate our cost, including the amortizing of the machine and all other costs, at about a nickel a page.

I'm glad you are getting to where you can begin to think of returning to your thesis. I think it can be an important work. I have faith that as you get into this more you will develop a more mature and responsible judgement (this not saying that you are either immature but of bad judgement) and escape the influence of the disinformation of both sides.

Best wishes,