

3/16/77

Dear Kevin,

When last I spoke to Mark Allen he gave me to believe that you have the feeling I do not trust you. I do not recall what it was or was about but it is not so.

As this will show.

Yesterday I had a second meeting with a publisher. The first was a lunch in Washington. This time the publisher, chief editor and counsel came down for the day.

Their minds blew. They saw such things as you have never seen. You can, of course.

Now they will have to decide if they fear retaliation. If they do not there will be an unprecedented opportunity.

Not just for a one-shot and not just to print - with real promotions without which printing accomplishes little.

It involves no conflict with your work on the committee, no areas of question of your breaching trust.

I write now and elliptically because the continuation of the committee is anything but certain.

Because I know from two sources how you got clobbered when you wanted to do the necessary.

And because I think you may be a bit disenchanted.

I would like to know if you might reconsider in the event there is the deal that is in the works.

Either way I'd like this news to be between us. Jim is the only one who knows. There are reasons.

If you are not in a position to judge then I tell you that your committee's leak on CBS TV Saturday was as dishonest as all the earlier ones, in some ways more so, and that Ray said nothing new last night on Who's Who. All that and more is in his testimony. The leak is a direct plagiarism of the work of a friend of mine who was following up on my Milteer work. It was published in Miami magazine dated October. He used it in a job application ~~xxx~~ with the committee. He visited us at the time.

I know the committee's assumption is that Ray is the King killer and that his brother Jerry is "Raoul." They'll swallow their teeth on this- if they live long enough. But in this they were helped by Ray's appearance because of the kind of person he is and the odd way his mind works.

Best,