

12/22/73

Dear Barry,

A hasty note before I see if I can get through all the drifted snow on the chance there is a mail pickup today.

The enclosed carbon of my memo to McGowan indicates my belief that I was right in seeing other uses for the strange manner of the Nixon "gift" of his papers to the Archives. (Remember, the CREMPS tried to do this, too.)

This is an area in which I see no competitive interests. Whatever use I may later make will not be hurt by any present interest, use, etc. Should there be any.

With those things I mentioned yesterday, however, this is not the case.

With them I must be as I was a month ago about Ford. I do plan use and do want to reserve this work for myself.

However, I have no reluctance in discussing these things with you personally and for your information only.

I appreciate your telling me about the late-edition Hunt story and your sending me a copy. If I did not mention it yesterday, here you may want to consider what Baker did and said at the Hunt hearing and the extreme brevity of the executive session held then. Also, of course, that any executive session was needed after all those interviews.

All these things fit the suspicions we shared in our conversation Thursday.

Knowing what you now know about what I have been working on, incomplete encapsulation that it is, I hope you will be alert to what may hold meaning for me that may not be apparent as well as anything that is apparent. I have put a large part of a truly sensational package together.

If I am not at all certain that at this juncture anything would make any real difference, I do believe that if anything can, I have it.

It may be an impossibility, but I see no alternative for myself in this to trying to use what I have to make a continuation of my work possible.

Because of those attitudes toward me of which I am aware and because the kind of public interest involved is not often expressed in money, I do not regard the possibility of accomplishing this as good.

Thanks, and I hope you have a good holiday.

Sincerely,