

Dear George,

6/15/80

I got the enclosed, pertaining to your reporting of Clay Shaw as Ulay Bertrand following Clark's statement that they were the same guy, from Criminal, DJ, not from any other component. I've asked for a legible copy of the note and the attachment.

From your today's and yesterday's stories on former CIA people and their books and from a recent Anderson column it appears that there will be a number and that some are fighting to get them out. The CIA will be the last to admit that all of this can benefit it greatly.

If you know the people involved and if I can be of any help to them, they are welcome to what I have and know.

Norton as Eveland's publisher interests me, says he with a wry half-smile:

My experience with Norton is what led me to publish my first book myself.

They said they liked it and then sat on it for months.

Finally they wrote me that if I'd reorganize it around page 138, line 4, it would be an extraordinarily important book and they'd be happy to do it.

To me that meant I'd have to charge the government with conspiracy. I regarded this as at best irresponsible and I was not about to do it for fame, fortune and possible bucks.

Second footnote: on the Saturday before printing, with printing initiated, after many non-responses I heard from that phoney Lyle Stuart. He wanted to do the book. I told him I'd commenced printing, had experiences with him that led me to believe he might not be serious, and that regardless of the liabilities involved, I was proceeding with the printing. However, if he wanted to distribute, that could interest me. (Sammie Abbott may remember because he was with me. He made the first arrangements for the printing, which fell through when that patriotic printer destroyed the plates and backed out.)

He said he just might be and could I come up and talk to him? I said I could after the first of the week, if he'd pay my expenses. Of course, including a nice hotel. Now he'd not be in the office on Wednesday, but so-and-so would know where to reach him and we'd get together then.

So I went to New York for the sole purpose of meeting with The Great Man - and got only No Spik from his people and was stuck with the cost when he later refused to pay them.

From my experience with publishers it is not easy for me to believe what I'd like to believe, that Norton is doing this from principle.

But if not they are no worse than the government and its anti-publishing enterprises. With the enclosed I got copies of records in which USIA arranged for Australian publication of the Warren ~~REPORT~~ Report serially by a paper competing with the one that contracted for Manchester's book and for arranging for the prestigious Arthur Goodhart to lambaste the Commission's critics.

If I didn't tell you, the FBI decided in 1967 that it had to "stop" manx and my writing. I've got the records.

Freedom is worth it but Christ! is it costly!

Best wishes,