

Dear Ed,

10/28/72

Your two mailings of 2# here today. Thanks.

You say what there is to say of Mae, both ways. I'll read her flyer, which she did not send to me, when there is time. I am the heir to her files, so I suppose she is less than happy about the moderate approach I took in discussing the Watergate after she and Krassner and on the same Pacifica station, by phone. They didn't tell me Mae and K would be on before I was on the air by phone.

Add to what you said of Turner/Hinkle/Asinof the probability that Sainof was also used for movie interest, more than just salvage.

Jung barely got into Scott. He is great.

That Conain, Lansdale and Young gave McCoy interviews at Langley is not indicative that he is their captive. Rather would I suppose that they knew well what he had by then learned and would say and were attempting to influence and color him and what the final text would present.

We do not disagree in your comments on McGovern. Rather do I see his needs. Can't the same thing be said of JFK? McG actually begins much better. To whom could he turn for position papers in the environment in which he runs instead of Sorensen and Clifford, Scott and Mark Rankin?

I may get around to asking Ran about Project Star. Have you the refusal?

Watergate: I'm way ahead of you except in possibilities. I can't write without a deal, can't get a deal without an agent, and have this curse of which you know. But I've been way ahead on almost everything, have been deceived by the magnitude only, not the scheme, in which I could elicit no interest at the beginning, have pretty much called the turns in advance, have done considerable backgrounding, have kept a file of clips and memo, and even have personal involvements, as with the probability of Hunt killing a WHITWASH deal in 1965. I could do a book. I'd rather do an "as told to" and get on to other things, with co-author one skilled in the likes of the commercial market. I have laid the foundation of a FPI suit on it of all things against the White House itself, could go into federal court on this immediately, have what has not been published, etcetcetc. My reality is that I can do nothing to initiate it with a publisher. I made several efforts to start again at ABA in June, got promises but no performance...I'm sure Hunt was Frank Bender, Barker "Bernie", have the FBI reports on Fiorini and Suarez, so there is this much answer to your Dallas-involvement question already. In fact, this was a combined White House/CIA job, with CIA in if only by who did it, CIA people and Mullen is a CIA agency. The whole thing is so large it is as yet too soon. To your own opinion add what you think would happen if the appearance of such a book could coincide with the hearing of a suit against the White House under FOI, or an appeal, if the hearing were to be prepub. I see it, I'd like it, and I can do almost nothing about it. If you have any ideas, fine. I've dropped hints with Walter. I've even queried the Inquirer, in the thought that if they used something without making it too irresponsible, it might attract someone.

And I've been bogged down in the Ray case, with Bud having made a real mess and much work I ought not have had to be falling to me. Not yet out from under.

Ed, I could get involved in at least 10 commercial and responsible books without notice and have much of the work done. Means nothing without connection and with this curse. I've given a number away. But I'd have trouble writing a WG book without seeming like a sick ego for one thing and I'm under too much of too many pressures right now to write well, so I'd welcome a collaborator with any decent publisher. Had it not been for preoccupation with Ray things, I'd have nudged Walter again. With a collaborator it would be different. He could go through my files, find the dated memos, and see how easy all of this was to understand almost as soon as the story broke. I couldn't say that, not of my own analyses. Meanwhile, everyone is now getting lost on Segretti, for all the world as though he were the whole wheel rather than a spoke....Hunt was more in Mullen than known; Mullen was CIA and probably still is; Mullen/Hunt are into GOP financing through dummies, too; Hunt was working for the White House when it all happened, and so was Mullen, covered by an IBM contract. I can go on and on but Lil calls to lunch. Thanks and best,

LOYALIST  COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

October 23, 1972.

Mr. Harold Weisberg,  
Route 8,  
Frederick, Maryland. 21701

Dear Harold:

'The War Conspiracy' is a very acute analysis and, ipso facto, has been blacked out.

Obviously, the Turner/Hinkle/Asinof book has problems as its publication date moved from October to January. The Playboy portion was very thin and Asinof was pulled in to fill up space. No editor could be pleased by its padding. Dull, also.

Mae is a charming woman. She wrote me that she plans to move to Canada. Her dedication and good heart cannot be questioned. Unfortunately, she is often a poor researcher, given to non-facts and theories of questionable validity. Her intuitions (like that of Sahl, J.G., and others) are often sound but her selection of "fact" to support her thesis is at best erratic.

The McCoy 'The Politics of Heroin in SouthEast Asia is old stuff.

One interesting note: Conein, Lansdale, and Young were the author's sources and gave interviews at Langley.

McGovern is the captive of an evil group. His selection of Clifford and Sorenson as his 'most trusted' advisors to write position papers is an admission of incompetence. The man appears erratic, shallow, and naive. Good intentions. Bad results.

Rand won't even concede the existence of Project Star. This study could be very significant - or a cipher.

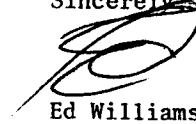
The Watergate case could be a great subject for you with solid commercial possibilities. Few (if any) possess your background in this area and as you wrote, "It looks bigger and bigger each day."

The press will never put it all together and this subject could provide one of the most explosive books in years. A fantastic property! Do you think any of the subjects were involved in Dallas?

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Anyway, I see the story as having unlimited potential.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ed Williams', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Ed Williams