

1/24/68

Dear J,

Yours of 22 here today! The boys are faster! On Unruh, do you think there had been a chance? Reread the epilogue to II. I mean it and mean to do something. If I have not heard from him by the time an appropriate opportunity affords itself, he will again hear from me.

Of the LA set, all I know is that Lifton has been doing dirty work. Including to me. I ignore him, after establishing a record. I think he is with Liebler. He has done a crazy bit with the camera. I will bring my dupe of Zep's with me if I have room and perhaps use to show that it was possible for it to take pictures at almost any rate between 18 and 48 fps. Little can be done about it. The thievery is part of it but not basic.

If my letters do nothing else, they leave a record. I did not expect TIME to use it. Had they so intended I'd have heard by now.

Re LBJ: See pp 8-9, PW. It doesn't originate with Garrison. I haven't changed my opinion, nor does the evidence I have warrant any change. However, I have developed another facet, as you have seen: the attempted political assassination of RFK, by the White House. So, until this is picked up by others, you will see that I have not only developed the fact but the understanding and thinking.

Wrote Hal, giving probable schedule. Arriving 2/2 about 8:30 p.m. or 2/3 about 10:30 a.m., depending on Chicago developments.

Will write Burton.

Best,

January 22, 1968

Dear Hal:

Where to start?

Rye appears to be a dupe or operative or marginal nut of sorts; it's good you spotted his action on your own -- Garrison's people knew right off the bat. Had you have had the kind of communication with New Orleans that I assumed existed, then you would have been alerted post haste. As Harv may have told you already, my conclusions are those of Garrison, that this was planted distraction of dubious motive. The so-called bar "Incident" was calculated on my part and witnessed by Verb for confirmation; more on this when you get out here.

The cab details are in Verb's possession, which he will convey at his pleasure; the only thing I can add is that a subsequent woman passenger called Belli after he made the statement on KNEW, confirming the cabbie's story, which he had related to her on a return trip from SF Airport.

On the Unruh letter: Knowing Jess, he will never allow you within 20 miles; perhaps I will be luckier. Whatever dialogue that might have been possible went out the window with the first sentence of the third paragraph. If he read beyond that point it will only be because he has masochistic tendencies.

I am aware your frustration grows by the hour, which does grow late; the abuses being wrought against you are enormous, but they cannot be countered legally or tactically at this juncture without splitting the cause into frictional factions; I know you don't want this to happen, certainly don't want to be the initiator; Verb tells me that the Los Angeles "buff set" is at one another's throats, which is a sad state of affairs; THE most qualified man cannot get embroiled in the likes.

If Garrison's plans cannot afford your expenses, they are in very bad shape indeed.

Write Steve Burton a note and tell him to contact my brother-in-law on the campus; I will alert Kurt to do likewise; they can thus start a student-faculty planning session for the projected critique or forum. I'm sorry I couldn't meet the kid when he was up here, but our schedules conflicted all along the line.

That Hinckle letter is another classic. Knowing Warren he really did enjoy it; his legal advisors, however, will find it not too hilarious when they must answer for his folly. I have not read the chiding article; bring it out with you.

This thing about "public domain" material is going to be one of considerable complexity when the time comes to force recompense; aside from per se pilferages, the paramount