

2/5/69

Dear Steve,

My wife found what she believes is a missing insurance receipt for the shipment of books to you that didn't arrive. I took it to the post office. They now report that the shipment was received.

I presume they spoke to you about this, but you have been silent.

Can you explain it, please? If you didn't get it, they'll pay.

I do not expect to be in New Orleans for the duration of the trial. I left there the end of the week the jury selection began. (since then I have completed the ms of another book.) Just before I did I had a long talk with Jim. I had never mentioned Rose to him, not since February or March when I first told him how much he looked like the picture of Wilken. Much to my surprise, he ticked off quite a list of reasons to suspect Rose, including some I did not know, really had no inkling of. He was sox point, so direct - and not only about Rose - I found myself cautioning him not to assume everyone was an agent. I agreed with him, or rather suggested that this was not the essential thing, that what happened is what counts, not for what purpose - that people could be just wrong. He found it difficult to believe that some ~~are~~ ~~be~~ so undeviatingly wrong. All of this has been and in the future will ~~par~~ ~~xx~~ a hard blow to him.

It makes no difference to me, personally, whether you ever send me the memo I've been told you were told to. I have more to do ~~xx~~ that I want and I prefer not to engage in utilities. My only interest was to prepare for the possibility of a move for a mistrial. The way it looks now there will probably be a number of them. "Some of our best friends" have just laid a nice foundation ~~for~~ another with the lack of inhibition for personal publicity, in N.O.

Whether we aborted the major one, or what may have been intended as one of the major ones, I do not know. I do not know enough law. I think we probably have, at least enough to prevent it, if not to save face. If it is tried, whether or not it succeeds, your silence when you need not have been will not make you proud.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

P.S. If there is confusion on the dates of the insurance receipts, will you please let me know that also?