

5/24/75

Mr. Tom Sussan, Counsel
Administrative Practices Subcommittee
New Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Tom,

One of the other matters to which I referred in my last letter was the Silbert nomination and a story dealing with Senator Tunney's position on it. Today's Post has an L.A. Times story (p.4) which prompts my writing now.

I'd have taken a more active role were it not that I'm already into too much.

I have two interests in Silbert. One is the suborning of perjury by his office in my C.A. 2052-73 to frustrate the FOI law and continue suppression of what could not be suppressed legally. The other is from the first of two Watergate books I have written. I laid this first one aside when it grew too long. The draft of the second is completed by I have not been able to return to it in almost eight months.

The judge ignored false swearing in C.A.2052-73 but ruled on fact and on fact held for me and against the government on that issue, the phoney claim to "national security."

In this first Watergate book I have a chapter as long as a short book on L. Patrick Gray. It deals extensively with the existing record, the record available to Silbert and his assistants.

My own opinion is that these were enough leads to break the case in the earliest days. In fact, I also believe that in offering this to any who have an interest I am jeopardizing the possibilities of ever doing anything with the book.

However, it should also be understood that this same information was in the possession of the Judiciary Committee. I can make a distinction others may not. Senators and not elected to be investigators. They can fail to perceive what it is the obligation of the prosecutor to seek and comprehend.

I have never been able to get two of the early items of Watergate evidence used in court - not in any way secret. Recently I asked Jim Lear to try again, with Levi. One of these, exhibits in the original trial, certainly ought to contain leads not followed. They are the addressbooks of the Cubans.

So, if anyone has the interest and I can help, I'm willing.

Sincerely,

Arnold Weisberg