

3/22--Dear Larry, when I tell you the secrets of your own paper I suppose I should label "confidential". I phoned Bob this afternoon and he wanted to discuss his pieces with me. He has some four, not the two of which you told me, and has been directed to do a fifth on the Frank book without enough time (Pete board and wants it over with). He wanted to check some things with me and couldn't find his stories. He called to the girl in the office and she couldn't find them either. He is really chock up and said so. I suspect it is innocent, like Pete has them or they are misfiled. He has a set of bound proofs of the Ray book, which is pretty cheap of Doubleday, unless it has another purpose, the book by now being manufactured and on its way to the stores. One purpose that can be served with press copies being only proofs is no index. Catch? Can't check things out. I offered Bob, again, access to such that is relevant to this fifth story, but he thinks there is no chance they'll give him time. I have Huie's letter offering me access to his gack after the scheduled completion of us of it by Frank and others, dates given! Frank on tape (hysterical) after my confrontation with his companions, Huie and the former prosecutor, now Judge Dwyer. Nonetheless, I think I helped Bob a bit. He now understands a bit more. And what he had failed to notice, what I knew would be the case, is in that long and self-serving declaration of Frank's intensive investigation over all these many years. He looked up all the Ray relatives, the prosecutor, the jurors, the lawyers who put him away --but not a single "witness" or witness! That's investigative reporting for you! He slur intended on Bob. He and I are not in the same business. That is not his specialty; it is mine. I knew this had to be the case -- it is the only way Frank could have written that book. And now Bob has just this wee bit for a beginning. In short, all the stuff about relatives means nothing unless Ray did the job, and all Frank says is that the government says Ray did the job -- not his own investigation. So what else is new? Best,