

5/30/68

Dear Jim,

My hunch on the effect of the decision, if it can be measured by the reaction of George Lardner, who is firmly on the other side, was correct. There would seem to be misgivings about the meaning of this decision. George has asked me to keep him posted on any hearing on it, saying he would like to cover it.

Enclosed is a page of Steele's testimony. It prompts me to suggest we add him to the list of those to be interrogated of whom we spoke Monday at the club.

While I had no doubt that Dione knew Godfrey well, I now have an added and to me binding proof: In all of his writing that I have read to date, there is but a single word not good usage. She uses it in the same erroneous way, in writing and in speech.

I have and have read perhaps 30 of his poems. He is a literate man, or should I say was?, sensitive, articulate, even if a constitutional fuckup and swinger. You are right in saying I should interview him. Whenever I come down for these interrogations, I will set aside two days for that, one with each of the two women who says she can turn him on for me. His reaction to each should be different. If I can get him both lucid and willing I am now convinced he can deliver exceedingly important information, and I think I know how I can lead him and an approach that will build his confidence in me. He is, or was when last lucid and recorded, violently opposed to the Vietnam war. I am alone among those writing in the assassination field to have signed the writers and editors protest of it and may go to jail for it. I think he'll read this. I have already asked the women to feel him out.

He seems to have had a wide circle of Hollywood friends. I will prepare a list and get it out there for checking.

Sincerely,