

10/27/70

Dick (Howard, Gary),

I've checked the two citations in "The Spies", pp/ 186 and 193 and read them a bit different than you seem to. They are very interesting, but only if questioned.

The reprints are not credited to any earlier publication, which makes me wonder, since it is an anthology. Nor does the book have a hardback history.

Pearson and Anderson are often used for the planting of stories. Sometimes each was favored by part of a department, each seeming to fight the other. They have become dependant upon leaks, to a degree, for a daily column consumes an enormous amount of information. I think the CIA used them in this case.

186 says there was an enormous missile of which the CIA, desperately, wanted a picture. Its suspected intended use in a May Day spectacular is irrelevant to any risky espionage, any military use. The picture could have awaited the summit, assuming all of the claim to be true. If, indeed, a satellite didn't or couldn't get it. Having a picture would neither prevent nor diminish the effect of such an alleged (by the spooks?) plan. Or, this is gibberish, but a cover for the CIA, another effort to give its miserable business a clean face, a semblance of legitimate national purpose.

193 says the last penetration before the Powers mission was April 9, when this missile base was overflown and the plane got important pix. Then what was the need for the politically-dangerous Powers one? This page also says what has to be false, that a U-2 "got within 70 miles of Moscow", this "without detection". Rubbish. With the successful one of 4/9 "picked up by the frustrated Russians" (assume this to be true, for it must have been, whether or not "frustrated"), what do the wily Americans do? Send Powers to the place they have already photographed, where there is a waiting reception. And on May Day, yet!

The lilies are gilded. Word "leaked out" that the Russians were "aware of the full extent of U-2 espionage", so they had to move missile sites (not to be seen by satellite cameras?), even using trains (we didn't?) for bases. Then pathos how will we keep track of this movement, with the U-2s grounded? The answer didn't become apparent to us for a while, but the Russians knew about and had their own satellite cameras....The spooks were not very imaginative...And up tight, too....With Andrew "t, George as an "expert", on "How th CIA Got Che" (cover blurb: They had Che Guevara in their sights all along and brought him down when they thought the time was ripe), how much more authoritative can a source be? Which makes me ever happier to have it...The pot boils from Fawcett magazines, going back to 1949...Thanks, HW

10/27/70

Dear Dick,

Thanks for the Nichols brief and the book. The marked quotations look interesting and certainly pertinent. I'll file this letter under Powers.

With regard to the suit, have you detected the enormity of the package our egocentric friend has offered the opposition? I hope they are not. To this degree, I take comfort from their ignorance of the fact and the apparent fear of those possessed of it to communicate with the lawyers, which would require disclosure of the hanky-panky. Bud had finally made a copy and sent it. I read it day before yesterday (when I wasted a trip to Washington and to Bud's office). Much as I hate any kind of defeat, I find myself hoping John's suit doesn't get to trial, for then there'd be a precedent decision, something that would not be the case if there is a determination on the motions. His case is so heavily flawed, I fear for it. His own ignorance is continually astounding. Like his failure to comprehend what the Burkley notations really mean. The argument in this brief is better than the earlier ones, but it does not address certain significant legal points raised by the defense. This is the problem of one suit for more than one thing....His letter asks you to tell him who asked for the stuff before the contract. I did not ask in writing until right after 11/1/66 but I had, verbally, and been told they were not available. I do not believe I was told they were at the Archives. And John's description of in "limbo" may be inaccurate. He doesn't really understand the 4/25/65 memo of transfer, which (don't tell him) does not relate to the film alone. ...I have the attachments to this brief, as you do not, but there is nothing you do not have or haven't seen....I fear our best interest lies in not disclosing anything to the government through the Nichols suit, which has too good a chance of failing, even if he should win in the lower court-one of the reasons I'm not rushing. My approach, according to Bud, is a much better one and I feel the other suits must be filed first to lay a solid basis. However, I am indebted to John to this extent: their response is very helpful to me and could have been to him if he knew his business...I am missing one of the letters he refers to in his first brief. I've asked Howard for it. I've not told Howard what I spotted in that when he sent it to me so he can stretch his mind and try and find it for himself. This way, sharp as he is, he may also find what I didn't. ...The "ochus Pokus may be over. I've had no reply from Physics Today. I attribute this this to correspondence with Alvarez. Nothing remains of the fetus now anyway, so why birth it? If that whore thinks mine were idle promises, I think when I charge the government with criminal activity, as I will soon, he may get a reading on the seriousness of my intentions....I've had only silence from Paul....There is a wierd book going around blaming the assassination of Hoover and one of his secret (alleged) bureaus. I've gotten just a whisper of this ms. It is the kind of thing Trent and Sprague might have heard about. I'm interested because it is time for another Farewell America. Were Boxley or Turner to do a book, as either might have been expected to by now, this ms. could be that of either...

Best,

WML
21 Oct 70

Harold -

Enclosed is book with story about U-2 (you may keep the book).

Note especially the following passages on p. 186 and p. 193:

(p. ~~183~~¹⁸⁶) "It was known that a monster missile, twice the size of America's hundred and seven-foot Atlas, was poised on a launching pad at Tyura Tam. The Central Intelligence Agency desperately wanted photographs of the new missile."

(p. 193) "The last penetration before the Powers mission was on April 9. The spy plane flew over the Tyura Tam missile center, then hurried back with important photographs."

Powers flew over Russia on May 1, only a few weeks after the April 9 flight.

No reply from Paul yet regarding my comments on Hoch's Pocus.

Still,

Dick