

12/25/73

Dear Pearl,

A funny thing happened on my way to Christmas dinner!

We are expecting a young reporter and his girl friend. They are apparently delayed. So, while Lil is busy in the kitchen I looked for adds and eds of accumulated things to do. Thus I found you. An accumulation you are!

You called me from Mexico City 8/13/72. At some point, I suppose when I thought perhaps I'd not remember all you were asking, I started to tape the conversation so I could later refer to it and remember what you wanted to know. Nothing sneaky.

You were then working as a legman - your words, not mine - for a friend who was working for the New York Times and Rugaber.

When I heard nothing more from you, Rugaber and the Times, I put the tape cassette aside to reuse. Looking for a tape a couple of months ago, to use it, I decided to listen to this one before re-using it. I'm glad.

First of all, it makes me feel good. At that relatively early day I correctly understood that had not come out and, typically, my only errors were in underestimating evil. (Lil doesn't but I do regularly, apparently never learning.)

Next, there is the reminder of what then fascinated me: who had the Times running down obviously improbable leads. That one was "the big money behind this is sugar." I then denied it. What I can't understand is why the Times went for it, and this is one of the reasons I write. What do you know about that? It then made no sense at all and now must be regarded as some kind of operation to hide truth even more.

We talked about old Ogarrio Daguerre. I offered the opinion that someone was using the old man. The checks cleared through his Banco Internacional account, on which new checks were issued.

You were to have sent me all you learned. I don't think I've received anything. I am still interested and unlike then, I'm now writing, with 500 pages retyped.

Parenthetically, you had heard from Stripso on this and were to have sent me what new garbage he had then sent you. You haven't and I'd still like to see it. This is a remarkable thing: he is always there with bad information, never good and never not there.

You said you had been referred to a Sylvester Liddy as counsel. I believe he is G. Gordon's father.

I've been meaning to write you for a while for something else. I'm interested in the Paseo de la Reforma. And in Mexico City city directories. What can you tell me of either? And how I can check an address of the recent past in Paseo de la Reforma, which I take it is a sort of local Rockefeller Center.

It has been so long since I heard from you I don't know if the last address is a good one. Hope so.

And that you are happy, making enough to get along on. And writing.
Which means out of the goldrums?

We hope so.

Merry after Christmas,