

Dear Dave,

7/30/80

This is a hasty update and alert, with some background for JDW, who may be impressed with the new dynamic of enterprising journalism since his retirement. The alert is because what is going to get attention is in your archive in my Minuteman files.

When Kathy Wilkerson gave herself up I phoned George Lardner with the untold story of how the Minuteman, who was also an FBI informer, arranged for those wild kids to blow themselves up. He was interested but you have all my stuff, so I asked Jim to make copies of duplicates of parts that he had from the research for a book on informers I'd given him before he passed the DC bars. They the Billgoat grew more malodorous and he was put on that and never got back to me. You brought up duplicates of what I'd given JL, but I didn't get a chance to read them until after you left. Then I was reminded that Izzy Stone, an old friend, is Cathy Boudin's uncle, so I wrote him a letter that set a new record in this day of postal efficiency. He called me the next day, didn't want to hear the details by phone, said he'd call Boudin, and later that day Boudin called me. I have him the essence, he was interested (!) and Monday morning I sent him the stuff.

He called me Saturday. Meanwhile, I started to nudge Lardner last week, asking if the Post was giving him a new, Watergate-type career and he laughed and said it looks like it. So I asked him about Paul Valentine and/or a woman reporter, who had done a good piece on Wilkerson when she surfaced, might not do the story. He thought it was a good idea. When I heard nothing in several more days I called again and spoke to Valentine. Lardner had spoken to him but nothing was working, so I told him I want the story out soon and would move if not so assured. He said he'd phone me back. This was Friday morning. He did - last night, after the last mail for the day had left Frederick. He asked if I have a clearer copy of On Target, which I don't, but I did have a partly retyped copy and I'd gotten out for Boudin proof that I gave this stuff to the FBI in 1/71, which means that if for any reason the field offices had not let HQ know their boy did the job, I did.

To let Paul know that he had this legible copy and the FBI record in the mail I phoned him this a.m. only to learn that he goes on vacation the end of this week. I asked when I might expect the story to appear and he said September, so I told him I would give it to the LA Times and he said he didn't blame me and maybe it might do some good in the future.

I had already felt Jeff Prugh out in confidence and he was very interested. So I called him this morning and read the exciting parts to him and Ed is now making the copies for him that Rae will mail in time to make the outgoing mail. The agreement is that he'll familiarize himself and get ready but put nothing out until after I have a chance to hear from Boudin. I set Monday as the time we'd confer on this. Meanwhile, I've given him all he needs to get what his own morgue has, and there is a California angle on the story because the same guy, Grathwohl, taught these infiltration techniques at an official state school for cops financed by IEAA.

I told all that you have my original records and how to get in touch with you if they feel the need. If it happens, protect Olan's name and any way of identifying him. It ought not be necessary to refer to that part at all.

Speaking of Jeff, don't forget you are to send Jerry copies of his Wallace stories.

Aside from what a terrible thing all this was and the guilty official silence and the official charges that omit the one responsible, the potential for litigation boggles the mind. Any criminal charges are state and there is no statute of limitations on murder.

Wilkerson entered a plea but has not been sentenced. I'm hoping that Boudin will get in touch with her lawyer - and father. He knows I'm dealing with the press and my desire for this all to out. I didn't tell him it is my expression of appreciation but I did indicate to Shea that expressions were in order. He asked what I expect and I said "dynamite!" ...I don't know if you'll want to tell your locals or the CapTimes that the stuff is in your archive... Excuse the haste and typos. Best to all,