

Dear Charles,

8/31/89

Included in a stack of books I have for you whenever Jerry picks them up are two in particular to which I draw your attention. One is Peter Wright's "Spycatcher" and the other is David Leigh's "The Wilson Plot." Knightley is one of a series of former Times of London reporters who, I believe, have done exceptionally fine work in books relating to the spy scandals in England.

There was a plot against Labor Prime Minister Wilson. To the best of my knowledge, its existence was first confirmed by Wright in this book. He bragged of it and his involvement in it. What is not now clear in my mind is whether he began it all of the CIA's James Jesus Angleton did. In any event, Angleton was very involved in it and important to it. There are other remarkable disclosures in it and Knightley's having to do with both history and political science. And international relations. Esp. US-Britain.

Knightley makes it more than clear that Wright is entirely untrustworthy and often lies along with his exaggerations, distortions and misrepresentations. Knightley also details the British witch-hunt by the spooks and the Conservatives and some of the media against Labor, visualized by them as "red." They actually thought Wilson was working for the USSR. Really paranoid cold warriors.

Jerry may want to read these books before he gives them to you. Ditto for a rather important one, "C," which my wife has not yet finished reading. This book is a biography of Stewart Menzies (pronounced MIN-gias), who was the head of M5, or intelligence.

Also included is a book on Anglo-American relations by a friend who was a Times of London Washington correspondent.

"Are We Controlled" is, I think, worthless but it attracted much attention because of its exploitation of the JFK assassination. I believe the alias is that of a popular talk-show host of the period, Art Ford.

I don't recall whether or not I gave you my hardback of Jim Philby's book but here is the paperback and if you don't have the hardback you'll get it.

I have another book on Philby, from the other side, that I've give you when it is returned.

Best wishes,


Harold Weisberg