

1/12/73

Dear Dick,

Howard has just left, after spending the week here. His presence reminds me that we have long been out of touch. Ed phoned me "New Years and said he'd spoken to you and that all is well. Things are as usual here, not a condition I could describe as good.

Howard is a fine, as he was, with a bit more maturity, a lot more knowledge, a firmer sense of where he wants to go, and no sign of more person-to-person emotional development, the one and same area in which I've been at all concerned about him. He is a great human being and will be a remarkable adult in his full maturity.

A day, a night and part of a day were taken up with Ray work, very unwelcome but I just can duck and let everything be Cyrilized.

He has files of interest to him with Jim. Months ago I suggested an area of work for him to him, he liked the idea, and now that he has seen the files, seems more interested in it. Not a rush project. He has no time for any of them. One of the many worthwhile things for which nobody has taken the time. It could be publishable.

What I did not recall is that in reporting to the Univ. Penna. Press about Howard's book, Tink had added a gratuity, that when it was revised all the medical references should be scrutinized by Cyril. Howard did not have to be told the potential, given Cyril's current dislike of him, probably augmented by the realization of how wrong he was. I don't think that if Cyril won't say it he doesn't realize it.

Howard has cut the book enormously and will resubmit it Monday.

He did something I hadn't done. He went through my Cyril file. He was as astounded as I for I'd forgotten all of it. It is much worse than I'd thought. I began warning Cyril in 1968. The position with which I ended is the one with which I began, altered only by circumstances. For example, until the time of the Panel Report I was concerned about the consequences of getting fake stuff. It ended with that reading, when other apparent concerns were expressed, including the one that dominated at the end. I then gave him specification, not just opinion.

So, all the others have been saying until they fell silent with the inevitable was so much bullshit. It was never true.

People had sent me many clippings of his wisdom and forecasts. Howard was still shocked after what he knew, they are that bad. In fact, I got just a dupe today of the Modern Medicine almanac. He has what he wants.

In going over what I'd thought was my CIA Foundations file only that Jerry finally returned (I'd never examined it after belated return) Howard found many not in any way related, files I did not know Jerry had. Not the only case. So, I have no way of knowing what he has and files Howard remembers also are not now here. There is nothing I can now do about it and I doubt Jerry would pay attention to anyone who made an effort to get him to disgorge.

In all of this there is a reminder: Ned is on the board of a CIA foundation, The African American Institute. Some of his associates are dubious in the areas of our interest Especially Katzenbach. Here Howard was surprised at what the returned file held, and that Jerry, with that file and any familiarity with it, he could do and be as he did and is. The stuff on Katzenbach as an apologist of and defender of the CIA is shrieking. If Jerry was unaware of it at the time he was collaborating with Ned and Ned was using K to lean on Marshall, he cannot have been later because he ultimately confessed that he had copied and indexed that file. The promised copy of that index has not come. Lesar also has heard nothing more about it. Maybe it is still on cards only. My point is there also in no innocence, no possibility of innocence, not now.

I've just returned from the bus station. Before even reading the paper I wanted to let you know the above things. and wish you well in the new year.

Best,