

8/3/71

Dear Art,

If I do not acknowledge each of the CNS clips you send, it is not because I do not appreciate or because they are not valuable. I do and they are. I am backgrounding a major-media reporter in the east, including with them, which he has no way of seeing. It is just that I am busy. When my publisher abdicated (I don't even have the "advance" and he hasn't arranged a single promo) and not one of my friends did a single airing, I had to put FRANKIE-UP out of my mind and get back to work on other things. I've almost finished the last part of POST-SCRIPT. And, I'm pretty busy with other, including legal, matters.

I have heard nothing from H.O. I have gotten the official set of the affidavits, have read them, have formed some conviction and impressions, if this interests you. They have just done what for them is normal, out of the blue they've dropped all charges against Sheridan. And when? When Martin has begun to sing! I've got a couple of verses from his song, and it is not harmonious. If I ever write a H.O. book, and I don't plan it, the title will include "Lemming".

Your situation out there looks very bad from the distance. But with the foolish things people have done, with guts things could be accomplished. That Wolfer suit provides real possibilities in discovery proceedings. I fear for Charach. He is a natural patsy. I wish I knew where his dough was coming from. He seems to have been spending it here like there was no end to it. Houghton et al require. What do you know about his ghost and his background, if anything? It may have some importance. And Bud's case to get access to the FBI stuff that Kaiser had was thrown out of court without hearing.

One of our real problems remains that only the nuts and the well-intentioned irresponsibles get any attention, which is their real objective, the result being the further reduction of anyone's credibility.

Best regards,