

3/26/71

Dear Art,

Thank you for your letter of 5/23. And earlier things perhaps not ack. because I've been publishing to read and correct new book. I've read and find consistent pattern of other cases. This is not exceptional in IA. However, I think your people have worked out a formula for the real things being avoided if that is possible. Depends on what such cases make no mistake, it would be unusual if the clerk's personnel didn't have official access and I'd be surprised if others, like cops, didn't. They have motive, clerk's people do not. I know all about that 5/16/69 conference and this hardly reflects it. I do not have and would like a copy of the Walker order following it. If you can get one, suggest keeping copy for yourself and letter me have one so that, if this develops, I can have it and compare it with what I have and let you know. Ditto on the released grand jury letter. No response yet from Lounger.

Now that the transcripts are available, if you can, please let me know their extent and cost, because Bud, for example, might want one, and if anyone gets one, so that much cheaper xeroxes can be gotten out there. There may be little things in this grand-jury transcript the average sharp mind also occupied with many other subjects might miss.

When I phoned the other day and you were in conference it was for several reasons. I recall intending to background you on the Chicago indictments. The fix was on there at least a month and probably at least six weeks before there was any leak, for I know that long before the first use in the Lerner papers. This makes clear Daley/Horahan or other penetration of either the grand jury or the legal staff, for nobody else could know. The purpose of the leak was to present a technical legal defense, prejudicial publicity. I believe no other is possible. I made a detailed study of that as I was writing and including in ODDP. I was also worried that poor sick Skolnick might attempt again to use this as a vehicle for more sick personal publicity, and to that end wanted to let you know that I have much more on Vallee and there is little doubt he was a sick man, which has nothing to do with whether or not he was or could have been a threat. It does, however, have much to do with what should and should not be said about him. The gov't has given me what it should not have and I will not use, his medical records. They want mis-use to use as an excuse for further suppressions and criticism of critics.

Hope sending this CMS copy is not burdensome, for it is helpful. Again thanks,

Sincerely,