

10/12/75

Dear Harold,

Jerry called this evening to tell me that he expects word from NEW TIMES tomorrow on my proposed article. He also had a couple of interesting tidbits I thought you'd be interested to know.

First he said, "Guess who I had dinner with last night?" It was Jim Garrison. Jerry had appeared at some Lane thing upstate, and Lane had brought the JGG~~g~~ up as a guest speaker. I told Jerry I thought even Lane had gotten some shame over that, but he said no, Lane is still 100% behind Garrison, etc. Jerry said to talk to Garrison you'd think he'd obtained 14 convictions and a mea culpa from the CIA. I kept asking Jerry what the hell Lane thought he was doing dredging up Garrison, and he said Lane justified it to the effect, "Regardless of what people may think of him, he still is a major figure in the case." Jerry also told me that Schweiker and Hart went and formed their own subcommittee to investigate, and will issue a report. He said someone (I forget who) had been in touch with Hart to ask if there was anything he could do to help and the answer was "Yes, keep Garrison off our backs." He added that Lane thinks he has every Congressman in his pocket but Jerry's understanding is the opposite, that Lane has turned off a number of people on the hill. I told Jerry there was nothing Lane could do to help and, worse, he could only hurt because he is a walking encyclopedia of misinformation. Jerry said, "I know, I know" and related an interesting story. He said Lane showed him the dossier he had gotten from the CIA on him (I think from CIA). In it was a letter to Rankin enclosing a news story about a speech Lane had made in Italy. The letter was to the effect that if we could Lane back to the states, maybe we can have disbarment proceedings brought against him. It was signed "Lewis." Lane told Jerry he had determined this was F. Lewis Powell. Jerry said of course--he could tell right away because Powell had been one of the ABA's reps at the hearings. To which Lane replied, "No, that was Craig." When Jerry insisted, Lane was incredulous, and said he wouldn't believe it unless Jerry could give him a cite. How about that!

Jerry also said NYT magazine will run a story in 2-3 weeks about the revived interest--to be done by James Phelan. Also, Vintage is reprinting Sylvia's book in paperback with new intro by Schweiker.

Also, confidential--I've not confirmed yet, but publisher told my parents Princeton called about a program they are planning. They said they wanted me to debate Specter, and that (apparently) Specter was agreeable. Pub. wasn't sure if Specter had been told who he was to face. I'll be calling tomorrow morn for details. Wow, if that could come off!!

I just remembered a little detail that might have special meaning for you. Jerry says Bantam's lawyers are real uptight about Anson's book and have already insisted on a number of deletions, mostly potentially libelous stuff like hinting Garrison was Mafia. So perhaps it would be more than a futility to make a big stink about suing if they rip you off.

Lil. Gotta run--hope things are going well with PM--and with you and

Best,

*Howard*