

8/20/71

Dear Jim,

Certain things are as inevitable as the sun-moon cycle: Bud has a compulsion to be heard and published on the assassination; he never knows what he is talking about and lacks fidelity even when he is part of that of which he writes; he will not subject his compulsions to testing for accuracy or faithfulness before publication; those around him are incapable of evaluating what he writes about because they also know nothing about it; the credibility of everyone is thereby undermined a bit more; and the objective we all seek is thereby made closer to impossible to attain.

And, of course, he not only doesn't send me a copy of any of it but clearly he tells others who ordinarily would not to.

Although I had no time for it, after taking a walk and working up a sweat this a.m. I read his sick stuff on the sicker August Computers. The totality of inaccuracy on minor points and the glibness with which the lack of proof of the major point was glossed over or misrepresented are astounding, the end product being a work that can be used against everyone, pre-eminently him. In addition, where there could have been a real case made of a legitimate point, that is not and the prospects of it in the future diminished because this trivia and foolish indulgence of ego can and will be invoked to ridicule any such effort.

On such small things as dates there is no single accuracy, save for that of the first hearing in Halleck's court. Here there is dishonesty, for there was nothing to prevent Garrison's filing of the identical suit for the two previous years and it is JG who abandoned the appeal procedures, not the federal government. In all respects there is no point made that is accurately made. The stuff about Ferrie, which you would think he would know well, is seriously faulted. Again, in details where unnecessary, where the simple fact should be known to one who represents himself as an expert and was readily available to anyone doing any writing if his interest was accuracy. Here Bud compares unfavorably with George Lardner, who did, from time to time, ask me to check things.

Even the sequence of events is wrong.

And how honest is it to write an article after the fact and make no reference to the actual indictment of Garrison by the federal government? This was not too late for August publication even if the article had been written earlier.

I know there is little you can do to stop this kind of thing. My purposes are to let you know again that you should try, all of you, and that he is again consistent with his track record. In this case there is further hazard because he represents a client against the federal government and he here has done what in my non-lawyer's opinion may further reduce the poor prospects of his client. In this case I think he was confronted with an actual if not a legal conflict and he remains blind, unthinking.

Perhaps the two most conspicuous things is that again Bud has proved that he has done no real work, has no real idea of what fact and imagination separate, doesn't really care about fact and is like a Warren Commission on our side, substituting what he wants to be fact for it (which might give an insight into the WG by some of you), and that Bob is either not possessed of the knowledge necessary to check Bud, can't do it, or has a mind no less tainted.

At some point all of us are going to have to pay for his endless, unnecessary and really stupid ego indulgences. The tragedy is that they may destroy him, for at some point he may come to understand himself and what he has done. With the usual regrets, HW