1/14/70

Dear Chris,

Your November mailing of the two issues of Paris-Match and the enclosed note arrived today. I'll respond via Gary, who thus will know and can add anything me might want to.

The November 26 issue is the valuable one. I saw it briefly when it came out in the hands of a person whom promised it to me, but I never got it. I read very little French also, so I cannot do much with the text. However, some of the pictures hold some interest, from a casual, mind-refereshing glance. For example, something that has meaning to me because I have a bad lower back, the re is sno single picture of him until he is about to go behind the sign that does not how him resting his right arm on the side of the car. I would have expected that, knowing how one compensates for the back potential by supporting it, eventually without conscious thought, but it is good to have the pictures showing this and so clearly. While we have long since passed the point of real significance in this, it remains worthwhile intelligence. When I can I'll go over those pictures with more care. The December issue is, I believe, a reprint of the LIFE special article, with some of the LIFE pictures. Unless there is a change in the text, offhand, I'd say it has nothing new in it. But perhaps there is one Gary knows, or others of us, fluent in French, who can check. From a glance at the text of the November issue, I'd say it is largely a rehash of Lane's rehash. His book was then about to come out.

Whenever Gary wants these, I'll send them to him. He is just getting over some kind of virus, which followed a rather intensive period at work.

The only way you can get a copy of Sylvia Meagher's index is by getting someone to xerox a copy. One of us, in California, has the least costly xeroxing cost available to him. If Gary does not know where there is a copy, because it wouldn be unwise to reduce the size (the cheapest rate), perhaps he can have it done there at no greater cost. I leave this up to him. The rate I have to pay is more than three times the highest anyone else does. And I cannot do it on my own 3M copier, for that would take a day. However, just guessing, I imagine Gary can get his xeroxed on legal-sized paper, if that is required, for about $5.00, including mailing costs. There are 150 pages to it.

I have no books near to publication. I have four ready. Little prospect. Each is part of a larger series, there being two parts of COUP D'ETAT and three to POST MORTEM (Two done).

I give you Dawney's address with an unsolicited caution I expect you to observe: you are to give him nothing coming from any of us. He is not as well grounded as he believes, makes enormous mistakes, and is close to and under the influence of Joesten, who is remarkably dishonest, off on an ego trip, and the most irresponsible and inaccurate man in the field. You may find these unpleasent comments, but there is no doubt they arevunderstatements. We have enough troubles without the irresponsibles, no mater how serious they think their purposes, and the wretched crooks, no matter how their egos inflate their senses of self importance, compounding it. Since his first book Joesten has done no original work. He pirates and improvises. Internal evidence is that he doesn't even have the 26-or just got them. He has done no work at the Archives. Where, then, does he get his "hot stuff". And he says he is the only one doing anything.

Dawnay's address: 13 Westmoreland Place, London SW1. He is not a Joesten, but he is influenced that way and he hasn't been able to dream of doing what it takes to know what you are talking about. Nonetheless, while I believe some of it to be erroneous, he has also done some fine things on the Ray case, not including his refusal to respond when I asked something of him, which would have cost him only a slight fraction of the rather large sum he owes me. I speak to you in confidence, but all of this is the sad truth with which you should be prepared so that the end produce is not further hurt to us from Joesten or needless embarrassment to you. Again, thanks, sincerely,