

4/9/71

Dear Jerry,

Please regard this as confidential. We've got enough problems.

Usually when people make cracks, I ignore them, sometimes I resent them, and, infrequently, I wonder about them.

Today you quoted Sylvia to the effect that if I spent less ~~time~~ time telling her how good the book is, she have more time to me me that herself.

This has lingered on my mind. So, I've gone through the files. And on the two trips to New York, I phoned her twice, once each time. The first time she told me about the book and we discussed other things. The second time we talked about the Bandy shows, Huie, Dwyer, etc.

I wrote her March 21 (two previous letters 3/3 and 3/8, before book, on other subjects, and no refs to book). This 3/21 letter is on the WNEW "other side" format which would present Huie and Dwyer alone. No mention of book.

She sent me an undated note on a scrap of paper with a clipping on Rankin. I replied 4/1/71. Her note reads "Harold - Keep up the dazzling work! Hastily, SM".

My very short response, which deals mostly with self-criticism of possible errors in judgement I made on the second Bandy show, carbon to her, has only the briefest reference at the opening: "Thabks for the Rankin clip and the excessive complement, which I do appreciate. Wish I could consider it 'dazzling'." This may not even have referred to the book but to the show. If the show, I haven't made a single reference to the book.

The only other, and also very short, note was not yet in her hands, for I wrote it only yesterday and haven't yet mailed it. There is no rush and in my conditio even stamps can accumulate into a problem, so I hold and add things when there is no rush. It asks for a copy of a paper she did a year ago, says that two major media elements have assigned the book to their DJ correspondents (a clause in a short sentence only), has one sentence on Kleindienst on TV yesterday a.m., or the day before, says I haven't gotten back the originals of the documents, and makes a 5-word reference to a letter I wrote Boggs, of which I sent her a copy.

When I told you I could not understand this, perhaps you can now see why. I still can't, and I still wonder why.

Sincerely,