

1/10/78

Dear Phil,

Sorry that combination of confidential relationships and sincere belief about what serves all interests precludes my doing much more than saying thanks for the recent clips, which are valuable and do include what is not in others I have.

I have no trouble telling you the C-A 1/6/77 is not accurate in a way that can't be accidental. The same is true of Bob's quote on Lesar, who has been doing all he could in the opposite directly, trying to see to it that Ray now says and does nothing at all. I regard what Bob has done as at best wretched. I really find myself wondering if he is rational.

The conflict between these new quote of Bob and those of which you know of recent date on whether or not he is Jimmy's counsel is pretty obvious.

Jimmy's dissatisfaction with Bob goes back to that Cliff insanity in which Bob's misbehavior was not limited to all the crazy public statements.

I want no publicity on this but off the record I do tell you that the quote in Cunningham's story about Lesar and me and his objecting to all other writers seeing Jimmy only not me is mischief cribbed from the CIA's man on the WxStar, Jeremiah O'Leary. I never saw, spoke to or had a letter from Jimmy until after I had completed Frame-Up. He gave Bud something for me that I used in the book, separately and identified. But I had had no contact with any of them. My first was after the second hearing before Judge Williams. By then the book was printed. So I never saw him as a writer. My writing was printed before I saw him and I have seen him and written him only as his investigator.

From this it is apparent that the purpose is mischief.

Neither Cunningham nor anyone else on C-A phoned me nor did O'Leary, who had some pretty poisonous stuff fed him early on by the FBI. He used it in Readers Digest. It was subject of Ray protest to battle. In all of those you have seen nothing directly quoting me or referring to any interview. There has been none. I refused to be on the CBS prime-time special even though I then had a new JFK book to promote.

Do you wonder about such deliberate prejudicial inaccuracies, referring to Lesar as "one of Ray's Washington, D.C. attorneys." There is one only. And they know it. This seems to have the McEachern touch.

Also off the record Bob sent me a carbon of his crazy letter to Jimmy and I sent him a strong response without sending Jimmy a carbon. My current wonder about Bob's state of mind is from his letter, before this newest insanity.

Thanks and do please try to keep me informed. This is getting very far out of hand and is having too much help that way.

Best,