

7/13/71

Dear Orestes,

Your large and registered mailing dated the 9th and that of the 11th both got here today, the registered having gotten to the post office yesterday just after the one delivery a day we have in the country had left.

I know you know I appreciate the time, trouble and cost of sending me these clippings, but I nonetheless repeat it, because I do appreciate these things and to this day you are ~~am~~ the only one in New Orleans to do this.

The stories, which I read before the affidavits, help fill out what is not in them, and that helps me understand what is in them and what each day seems more important, what is not in them. Perhaps these missing things will appear before the last part is printed.

Orestes, you know more than you say, and a man in your position is sometimes wise not to say all that he knows. I would not ask you to do what you might consider against your interest, so if this question is one you do not wish to answer or cannot, just pay not attention to it. Have you any idea what the government had on Pershing Gervais to make him do this? I know they could have been keeping after him for years and have gathered much evidence on what he was into, but I really think this is so different than he would behave that I think it would require ~~much~~ more than what might cost him a few years in jail. That is one ~~part~~ of the parts of this I haven't figured out. Some of the rest is beginning to take shape in my mind, but until one knows all that one may be able to know, it is better to withhold judgement.

I found the government claim that it is because his son is a prisoner in Viet Nam that Pershing did this hard to believe. Not after what he told me the last time I saw him about ~~the~~ the federal government, that war and his son's part. Of course, that was in January 1969, some time ago.

Again, my thanks,