

11/7/73

Dear Dave,

After you phoned me something happened that led me to believe I can provide a more sensational promotion than you can dream of and one that will not associate me with those behind the movies.

Your people are exploiting the 10th anniversary. But those with whom they deal have never done any original work and have no original materials of any kind.

I've got a blockbuster, a mind-blower, complete with Top Secret stamps.

It crosses all parties and political lines.

I worked with Senator Russell on it and have a few letters, in the last of which he encourages me to continue what I was doing. But he broke a life-long friendship with LBJ after what I put in his hands.

Your people have spent what for me is considerable sums for crap, including "research" after the flick was done. I know who did it, etc. Believe me or not, they can't begin to invent what I can deliver.

The indirect promo would be more effective than any direct one.

Meanwhile, as a friend, let me alert you to two things. There is an even nastier leaflet these nuts have turned out than the one I read and you never phoned Lesar to get. He did take it back to Washington with him. I don't even have it now. And prepare for a p.r. kick in the teeth if the federales are not asleep or unless they decide they are better off ignoring the whole thing. All five of them, I think five, between them, have spent virtually no time at the Archives. So how the hell do they know what is suppressed? Skolnick is insane. He filed suits without knowing what the hell he was doing, and he had never even written the Archives. I know him and I checked at the time because what he did was hurtful and dishonest. Separate from insane, but that also. He has just done the craziest over the Dorothy Hunt (E. Howard's wife) UAL airplane crash and was exposed as a faker by the FAA investigation.

These are strange people. If you don't restrain them they can ruin you and your client. If you do, they'll scream federal suppression. Lane is not insane, but he can be utterly irresponsible (ditto for Freed) and will do almost anything to promote himself. The stuff that can be leaked about him can be pretty seamy.

Good luck!