

10/15/71

Dear Howard,

As regrets we welcome them, but as apologies your expressions are not needed and you should not feel this way (10/13). But thanks.

While there is never any time we don't need money for work and for living, another has agreed to pay the cost of the PM copies. I am certain he will.

Harper: unless there is need to disclose that they slipped up, why not just ask for a copy of the Hoover letter? If they dope out that they slipped up, that is one thing. But give them all the chance in the world to be crooked. And maybe they'll just send it.

On the skull-frag X-rays: my recollection on the Harper stuff is unclear, for it goes back too far. However, I do know that the frag that got to Beth. 11/22 was X-rayed. It is in S-O'N.

My knowledge of anatomy is slight, but I am in general agreement with your reading of the one-way "path" On rereading it, I saw immediately. However, I regard this as Dick's, and unless he says ok, I'll leave it out of the appendix. That is the only place I can now include it unless I have to repage that part. I haven't yet been able to finish that part. The stake is in the same place, with a few more things on top it.

Thanks for the Kilpatrick clip, which I'll read later. I refer to him and his book in COUP.

On Wecht and the X-rays: I've not time for a full explanation, but he has been completely silent with me on this. I regard it as the most dangerous thing we can at this juncture do. Instead of my explaining why to you, why do you not think it out for yourself and see if you can reach the same conclusion? It will be a good intellectual exercise. Sylvia has been too far out of it, although she has so brilliant a mind she disappoints me in not having detected it. I attribute it to her great preoccupation with a taxing and exhausting job. It has kept her from the kind of brilliant thinking of which she is so admirably capable. She is reacting automatically. It is there, so we should try it. I think you understand a minor aspect, that they can't now add more to what I have established. They can add much information, but not of any magnitude, and they can add sensation and get attention. But you think about what all this can now be counter-productive, when you have time.

Thanks and hurried best,