

1/11/74

Dear Harold,

Have been working like crazy on my thesis. I've really gotten into it. The period I'm working on now is 1937-39, British vs. Soviet policy re Hitler. It's fascinating and the more I study it the more I see how this was the decisive period in determining Soviet policy after WWII. The Chamberlain cabinet was incredible!

I'll go over your two recent mailings, and comment as I go along.

I don't have the NYReview Vidal piece on Hunt. If you or JW can spare, I'd like to see, but not vital or pressing.

I'd like to have a copy of your suit on the exec ses involving Ford. I liked your suggestion about the afterword (now the Preface), i.e., don't start another book and keep it general. Even general I had trouble keeping it to 5 pp. But I'm very happy with it now, and when it's typed, I'll send a carbon to you. I left out Ford and Jaworski.

Thanks for the article on the JFK-Khrushchev corresp, which I'll return soon as I copy. I saw no mention at all about it up here.

Re your Caddy note, I already mentioned the only file I can think of where these might be, and I'm not even sure exactly which file that is. I'm pretty sure I kept a file of clippings on the original break-in and the immediate aftermath, which might just be labeled "Bugging." Or "Break-In"? *when I was refiling your clippings*

Re Kintner and flase CIA letter: It's not Bob Kintner. It's William Kintner, and if you recall, he was a prof of mine at Penn two years ago. He is a no-good, dishonest, arrogant guy who has been flying around in high mil/dip circles since WWII. He was behind the 1955 "open skies" proposal, was involved in reorganizing Defense, and always used to tell his humble students of his calls for advice from Henry. At Penn, he got the full salary of a tenured prof for coming to class for 2 hours a week and never even touching a paper, but for a while he did a valuable service as head of the Foreign Policy Research Institute when it was a part of the University and was getting govt funds for defoliant research (or so an assistant of Kintner's once told me) I gasped when I saw where Nixon was sending him, remembering all the arguments I had with him in class on SE Asia. I wrote Fulbright (sent you a copy, in fact) who answered that Kintner had "reassured" the For. Rel. committee by saying he supported Nixon's SE Asia policy.

Thanks so much for your letter of permission, which I appreciate and I'm sure the pub. will!

Your note on the settlement of the helicopter suit was good news to me. I can understand that you and Lil did not rejoice, but I am glad you both were spared the pain of court proceedings, and I am encouraged and happy to hear of any improvement in your financial condition, for these things take their toll on you and Lil and it hurts me to see that, especially after what you two have already suffered.

I hope I am not taking advantage of your good will, but (brace

yourself), I have to ask for another letter from you. I have applied for a potentially very valuable scholarship from Vanderbilt University (given to 5 law students each entering class). One of the requirements for application is "to procure at least one letter from a knowledgeable and responsible source for the specific use of the Selection Committee, evaluating (the applicant's) personality, ambition, leadership potential, and personal motivation. These and other intangible characteristics, when added to a good legal education, should tend to produce a superior lawyer." The instructions imply that I am to send the letter when I submit the application, deadline Feb. 1, so if you do write the letter, I guess you should send it to me.

I hate to burden you with these requests, but I really cannot think of anyone more qualified to write this letter. I'd really appreciate it if you could. The scholarship is called the Patrick Wilson Scholarship in Law, for Vanderbilt Law School in Nashville, Tenn. Your letter need not be long, I'm sure.

Give my best to Lil. Her comments on the persimmon article made good sense, and they made me feel a little silly that I hadn't deduced so much myself. But it was a relief to get her letter, because I was sure that I had a bezoar growing in my stomach. Sometimes I guess you can read too much and think too little.

Best,

*Seward*