

9/13/69

Dear Gary,

The slides came today, rather bettered in the mail, and I shall make a better package tomorrow and return them the first time I'm at the P.O., for I will take no chances and will insure them. I've glanced at them in haste through my small viewer and could see enough. I've segregated those of which I'd like a copy, and there is no rush. But it is better than you have the copies made for several reasons. First, and not without importance, you can have it done for less than I. Next, you'll have them in case you need them. But perhaps most important, you'll know that I do not have a copy of any of Fred's stuff. You know the sort of thing that has been alleged. This way we'll avoid it. As a matter of fact, as soon as I saw the first one with the red on it and recognized it as probably his, as soon as I saw this or other marks, I did not even look at them. My reason is that I do not want to know what he did. What he did for me and gave me is one thing. What he didn't is another. This is what he didn't. By the way, that rifle is mine, it is for these things that I was without the rifle for well over a year. It didn't take Fred that long, but it was that long before the Committee got it back to me and by then, the only way I got it was to tell them it was needed in N.O. They sent it there and after the trial, you sent it to me.

What happened to the color is ~~some~~ some of the Zap? I have included just a couple of these. You do not have the complete Altgens. Bud has it. He got it from me. There is something I'd like to have from Z, if you can have them made from the closest thing you have to the original. You have seen what I do with Willis and his feet, as I did in Mpls (and, as you know, this is Not Lillian's!). Well, I have an idea for carrying it further. I'd like a copy of 122-204 or, if he shows in 205 in your copy, that. Here, if your photog does it, color is not as important as clarity. I have another artist working on the case. I've given him something to do for me, but I've not heard from him on it. I'll send these to him to get what I want done.

What happened to 313 to put all that red in the head? I didn't notice that in the Arch slides. Some special treatment?

When you make slides from the film again, I encourage you to make 335-43 and study them closely, as per the memo I sent you a long time ago

This batch includes few, if any of Bud's, for it includes but little of what I gave him, and none of the NO stuff. But I can get them from him. I should be seeing him soon.

The current Saga has a story by Warren Smith, of whom I wrote you and Paul several months ago. There is very little new in it, although it may strike you otherwise, some that may be true but doesn't stack, some little that is wrong, and one thing I believe quite significant, the strange confinement of Stephen's women in an insane assylum. Of the "witnesses", the only one I believe would hold up in court is the black boy two-timing. The Canipe witness might, but he has been silent at a different, official representation of what he is supposed to have seen. The black boy is important. I think he is probably a little early on time but I believe the essence of his story, and when you see my treatment of the second Mustang, you will see it is accord with my ellipsis. Of the witnesses whose identities he hides for their safety, a customary device, the names of all but the two winos are well known. Those are new to me. I wish I could believe the story of the Cadillac. One of the epeople I have believed likely and whose name I gave Smith has a Caddy. And the right politics. And ample money.

As I grope for those tensions that may be bugging my subconscious most, I wonder what part, if any, N.O. and the potential for harm still there figures in it? For the past two days this has been very much on my mind. I am not ordinarily aware of my dreams when I awaken, but yesterday morning I was, and it was sort of odd. I dreamed I had gone to N.O. for some purpose and saw Jim, at his home. He was polite and superficially friendly. He was much shorter, and I remember clearly when we were close together that he was, in the dream, only slightly taller than I. Of course, he towers over me. I also recall going home the same day and looking for a trolley car to take me to the train station. Now I know very well there is but a single trolley left in N.O., the St. Charles line. I have no idea where the station is. I was asking a man on the street for directions to the trolley. And that is what I recall, all of it. When I awakened, this bothered me, and I do not know why...One of the things I think has been on my mind is Matt's silence. When Bob Cutler was there after the trial, Matt was with Jim. And they were planning what they would do with what Cutler learned of the alteration in West's charts. Now, I didn't know this when I wrote Matt, after the piece in the paper about Jim continuing, which is quite contrary to what he promised. I asked Matt to keep me posted. I want to be able to protect us, no more, but I doubt if, under the seeming circumstances, Matt would so believe. I have written him several times asking him to let me know that he is home so I can send him something. He has not responded to this, either...I'll have to let this remain a mystery, but until I know the answer, I'll now not be able to tell Matt what I wouldn't want Jim to know, and there are things. With their demonstrated incapacity and equal facility at blabbing and misusing, there is one thing I want done there that I'll not ask of Matt.

For the past two days I've been cleaning up odds and ends, having finished reading and correcting the COUP add. I've finally made a cleaning rod and tomorrow I'll do what Dick wants done with the hulls, if we do not get company, and I'll start the notes I plan. I've done a little more filing. In the course of it I realized that when I finally get a list of the CD's I have those I've published and are not in the files will not be included. Sometime I hope to be able to find someone who can make me 3x5 cards on those I've published. My O in NO index includes the unpublished appendix.

My bed boy has been silent. I'll let him stay that way for a while. I've not seen the NYTimes story on his banning. It was supposed to have been sent me more than a week ago, but I didn't get it.

My presumption is that Smith and "they" plan something much more than this Saga piece and they used this in Saga, for which they got but \$500, simply because Smith's agent couldn't replace it elsewhere. Knowing how much work both did on this, I feel rather good about what "they" have, for it is every so much more and more solid. On the other hand, I do not know what they are holding back for, let us say, a book. I know Smith is interested in the NSRP. Nothing on that in the article. ..They use the Hanes fiction of Cubans. If they believe this they are crippled. Smith cannot and still have his NSRP interest, unless he believes the NSRP dupes Ray with a Cuban angle. Imagine anyone believing they'd be interested in \$150 rifles they can buy in any sporting-goods store! And who'd believe they'd be interested in them in Memphis? I tear that up in the book....I have no reason to believe the death of Lorraine Bailey at the motel is connected with anything, but, as they fail to point out, she dies just as Ferrie did. Ruptured blood vessel...Lil hasn't done much typing lately. She's had an almost continuous headache. I presume a connection between them and the prolonged IRS audit of our books. He works a half day and then is away for several. I'd be inclined to believe he'd work on this until he finished. I propose asking him to when he returns. In his absence, we leave everything as he did. But it is a disturbance of work, at least the kind we do. We have enough on our minds without that. I am not at all concerned about the books, for Lil is good at that and they are honest...Strange no word from Renmar, the uncle, etc. Best regards,