

Gary (Paul), 7/23/70

Spent most of yesterday in Bud's office, where I went to go over the spectro suit with him and give him more documents for the appendix to it, but he stayed busy and I saw him but long enough to say hello. I spent the time with the three young men he was working on this, one apparently entirely and the other two in part preparing for the computer project. One of these men was to have completed going over the suit for the clothing but wasn't. I'll be there again tomorrow.

They have and appeared pleased with (no mention from Bud) a large story in Bill Loeb's Manchester Union Leader. It was a story on this computer project (allegedly), but in form was a bad one, largely red-baiting, favorable to the committee. It is the largest story in that issue of the paper, banner headline, across the top of the page. However, it would be unfair to hold Bud responsible for the character of the story. Loeb, for example, has been helpful to me in the past, and unselfishly so, at cost to himself.

While I remain disturbed at the cost and existence of the computer project, I am less disturbed than I was about what is being fed it, though still this way also. I have glanced at a few of the hearings, to me, they are not going for the fat stuff but are playing with the notion they are going to solve the crime. You can make their own estimate of how it is being fed when you know they haven't put any of my work into it (planning O in HQ), but are busily engaged with Popkin. I wonder what they'll retrieve.

Aside from this, inevitably, those doing the work are not the best informed, or how could they be? There is no possibility of getting the programmers and feeds with such knowledge. I fear my suggestion they were not prepared to make the required judgements was not persuasive.

When I think of what could be accomplished by this cost and effort....

But they appear to have considerable interest from Congress, especially in the Sprague article. I suggested how they could disassociate themselves without disassociating and undercutting Sprague, who is a member of their board, for they can hardly say their director is an irresponsible nut and they can hardly associate themselves with that piece.... Gary Short and I have agreed. Nice letter from him yesterday.

Sincerely,

7/18/70

Dear Gary,

Got contract from Gary Short yesterday and just managed to get it, letter and an assortment of things he might want in preparing a brochure or other publicity material off to him before P.O. closed, without time to reread what I'd written.

One thing I wanted and couldn't find is the Eric Norden review of, I think, O in NO, appended to a review of, as I now recall, Six Seconds. I told him there were useable things in that, and Playboy for some audiences would be a good thing to quote, and that you might have this, as well as any pictures that may have been taken of me when I was there, including by the TV stations and students.

Wasted much time this week, including in improvising financial matters. I embarrassed Bud into lending me the immediately-needed sum he had said the week before he didn't have, so that I could repay it to the man from whom I'd borrowed it so he could meet a payroll. Another friend had promised it, and I made a trip to DC to get it, but our needs prevented our getting together.

No word (today's mail not yet here) from prospective publisher King/Ray parts COUP or anything else new.

A friend with facilities phoned yeatersay to tell me he'd been able to have a 35mm version of the Z film made for me but that the quality is terrible. He is the one who wants to get good copies of N and M. He figures this Z is about 10-11 generations. I've told him how to get in touch with Jerry. Jerry now has a car and may be here again soon.

Chris E. Times, reports Dymond is Oser's campaign manager in campaign for election to full term. N.O. papers report opponent Dowling's charges of improprieties and suspension while on JG staff and JG quote in apparent condemnation. Unclear and not necessarily sinister, N.O. being what it is. I'm not writing to ask for more info for there seems to be a predisposition toward silence, which is how I'll leave it. Where I question Al's trial and pre-trial decisions, I am inclined to think he knew or believed them to be what JG wanted, not that he threw case.

Sincerely,