

5/3/70

Dear Gary (cc Dick only),

I've been deep in two large stacks of new Ray material, the other court records--the various hearings and motions. I'M through them up to where Stoner & Co. took over and have found and made notes on much of value. I was right on everything mentioned in them save one thing not mention, and I find it interesting. It is Huie, according to Battle, who got Hanes to be Ray's lawyer. Bebbler Battle ballbed it out. Huie was in England making speeches. So far as the dishonesty of the lawyers and the judge goes, I fear it was kind to them, it is that very bad and so very clear in the record. Foreman is beyond belief. He is as smooth-and bid-a liar as even LBJ, in the same innocent-seeming, homespun-faking way.

Had a physically tiring day yesterday, which is good, so I was able to go back to sleep after I got up this a.m. There is but one thing I have in mind, so I note it before waking Lil. Paul came up Saturday late afternoon. Instead of staying over night, he decided to keep his parents happy and drove there. It is a short drive, but he got lost. They came back yesterday afternoon, also getting lost, and already late for a dinner engagement with a cousin who lives five miles from where I used to, so that was practically no visit. His parents are fine people. I had loaned him some Ferrie material neither of you has seen and, while he didn't get through it, he was quite interested.

We lost an hour Saturday, of the little time we had, with LBJ's rewriting of history, then edited. I expect to be seeing him again before he returns. He had once mentioned all this material Lifton is getting, and I knew it included just about all of CD5,6,7,205, which is pretty old stuff. So, I asked Paul if he knew of anything else. He doesn't. While I do not consider Lifton crazy (in this sense), I cannot but wonder at his extensive interest in material so well covered. It is almost as though he were going out of his way to build a large file of the now less significant materials. Paul is working from the inventory I sent him and the file of staff memos I gave him. These are bound to be incomplete and he thinks he has doped out another file in which they are included. If so, he will go over them. He has two trucks of stuff awaiting him. I have copied part of the staff-memo file for you. Paul will get the rest done. (Nothing of your special interests in it, Dick.) Nothing sensational. You have my letter to Rhoads pointing out it was not complete.

A combination of what Skolnick has done and my inability to get to Chicago to get to it has been working on my nerves (I suppose this is the cause). The new Sprague-Bud childishness hasn't helped. I think this may also make me wonder more about why Lifton is so expensively retreading. He can have legit. reasons or interests, but that is old stuff to most of us.

Paul agrees with me that if I can find a way of getting him what I showed him, Jim may be able to reconstruct much of what is withheld...Nichols, who has not responded to me, if annoying the local Western Union. He is asking them for a copy of his telegram. I gave them one they forwarded to DC to forward to Nichols, so I've made another copy they can send...Got about 50 flats of potted tulips, hyacinths, bluebells and crocuses and 21 pansies and 12 phlox left over from a gardener and, after we unpotted and started drying all the tulips we can use, even in all out land, and after phoning all out neighbors, still have 7 flats to give away and 8 of p,antables to get into the ground, besides pansies, so, with all the other work, I've plenty of exercise ahead. Got the phlox in. Minor extravagance that will give Lil much joy and use color and beauty for years...Nothing else new. ..Trent had a 10-person picket line around CBS Saturday. Another station interviewed me by phone. Best,