

Dear Jim,

7/1/74

Thanks for the Scott tape backing Hunt/Buckley. HR and I listened to it with interest this a.m. but I'll have to go over Hunt again because I clipped the paper to it and didn't catch what I want.

Scott is very bright but he continued to fill in gaps with wrong information that his mind, not fact provides. He is not on this subject as he is on V.N. However, there is one thing I did not remember and will have to check, the date correlation between the ~~Maheu~~ Maheu/CIA/Rosselli deal and the Haldeman sudden interest in what makes no sense at all, the publicly-known and publicly-announced O'Brien representation of Hughes. With Bennett in the middle, it worked out just fine, as it did with Dita, DeWotte, etc.

Bennett is a much more significant man in this than appears.

I have almost finished All the President's Men. You were right. I suggest any interesting visual measure: check the index on Bennett, Mullen, the Mullen agency and Hunt. One mention of Bennett, as Hughes' rep only. None of Mullen and one, a meaningless one, as I recall, of the agency.

And in going over the Cady clips to get ready to write, I noticed that they knew Hunt was with Mullen in 1969!

There was a deal. If Bennett is not Deep Throat he is Deep Background.

Progress report on I Am Not a Crook: The Sayings of Chairman Richard (with more on the planned cover to make clear it is a spoof) All initial copy in NYC.

Progress report on TOP SECRET JFK assassination transcript: my introductory text written (unread by me), edited by HR and to be read by JL Wednesday, when he is to deliver his legal memo and selection of appendages to it.

Transcript mounted for camera. The waxer worked great the first time ever used here. Cleaner and much faster than magio tape.

Most of FBI, SS reports to be added separated into special file. Missing ones asked for. Much speed as possible.

I suppose the first effort to use will be if the Ehr. defense thinks the case against him on now is strong enough.

more

Scott KFTA tape- Ruby as HUAC informer

7/1/74

I don't remember hearing this one before but the farright used to have field days with a Chicago Jack Rubenstein who was the subject of HUAC interest, as a subject, not as a fink.

Maybe they still are and I don't see.

I'd like to have a steak for every Jack Rubenstein in Chicago.

Maybe this is a real one, but our Jack in an attempt to understand anything political or his "union" as a real one are not easy to keep from slipping from the hand.

What interests me about this is his source, the very respectable, eminent, dependable or whatever he called the reporter and I know he saw Szulc when he was here.

What was Tad doing with an FBI report from the 40s? I don't think it is in the Archives. But suppose it were, how does that fit his known interests. What purpose?

Of course, if it is a fake, there is more. I think he is connected with the best of USA's document fakers.

Was he off on an assassination kick in his book and then decided against it? It is not from his NYTimes writing.

Suppose that the original is another Ruby or this is a fake, why would anyone give it to him? Did he not ask his source to prove that this is the one, the only...?

If it is a gag, why palm it off on Scott?

No matter how I look at this in the little time it has been in my mind, it just does not come out right.

For either or both.

Best,