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Dear Joe,

Thanks for the Times story on Izzy Stone. Like the Homer, claimed by seven cities after he was dead although in life he'd begged in them for his bread. Now Izzy is safe and he is no longer criticizing the Times and other media goliaths. This is not mentioned in the Times' belated tribute.

Yes, I've long admired him. When I first knew him he was known as Isadore Feinstein and I think the Times may err in giving his name as Isidor Feinstein Stone. My first contact was 51 years ago. He was then with the New York Post, then owned by the man who owned the Camden paper when he worked on it, J. David Stern. Izzy filed one of the earliest NLB cases, against Stern. I've forgotten the details. But Stern was an anti-labor New Dealer in his personal labor relations. I don't remember now if Izzy moved to the old Phila. Record before going to New York.

Phil and I knew one of his cousins, a woman with whom Phil worked for the Senate. She asked me to send Izzy galley proofs of all our committee published and I am pretty clear on how I addressed them.

It may be that The Nation first moved him to Washington. I remember seeing him in The Nation's office there. I also remember his working for Ralph Ingersoll's PM and seeing him and others I then knew there.

He comes from a gifted family. Louis Boudin, one of the legal greats of this era, is a cousin. Boudin, in addition to having a daughter, Kathy, who was involved with The Weathermen and surviving the explosion of the Greenwich Village town house in which they were making bombs, had I think a sister, Laura, we knew pretty well. She had and always carried with her a coatamundi, a pesky kind of small animal but I can't remember having to clean up after it when she and it left.

Like most of us, Izzy had blind spots. One of his was Earl Warren and the Warren Commission. When I first discussed this with him, before my first book was out, we were breakfasting or lunching at a fine deli owned by a refugee friend of ours and I remember driving him from there either to a doctor's office or ~~like~~ a place near the old Wash. Daily News. He always had ear trouble and I think about then he had successful surgery for it. Next time we discussed the Commission and its work was toward the end of 1966. His brother Mark was doing public relations for Ramparts magazine, he was in Washington with Penn Jones, a paranoid critic in tow, and he invited us both to his hotel room at the same time. It was Mark and Izzy who argued. Izzy just would not consider fact or evidence, remarkable for him in particular. But this does not diminish his greatness.

As I did with the Dies committee, he was very strong on what was public domain, not just documents, as the Times says. He did a truly great book entirely from the public domain, The Hidden History of the Korean War. Don't know what happened to my copy.

He'd told me he was studying Greek but not what he planned to write. He has an interesting argument about Socrates. I do remember the last Socrates I read. It was a nice spring Saturday afternoon and I decided to walk home from the University, a mere dozen or more miles, while reading his debates with Kebes(?) That day everybody I did not flag for a ride stopped to offer me a ride! It was much safer walking narrow country roads then.

Izzy gave me some very good advice when I was working on my first magazine story. Remember Marty Goldberg? He was then working at Click, in Phila., as Don Martin. From there he went to Hollywood and I lost contact with him. That story was an expose of Jan Bat'a's Nazi connections. (Bata Shoes, near Aberdeen.) Another Izzy tipped me

off to where Marty was, Izzy Bleiberg. When he quit the Wilmington papers, after marrying Sarah Weiner, I took him and her to Washington for him to find a job there. I then had a vast room in an apartment owned by a mechanic up one of the great alleys Washington then had. Between 17 and 18 (17 there actually Conn. ave) and H and I. The curator of the Smithsonian, Ales Hrdlicka (P) lived in that alley. The three of us slept in that one vast room, like so many ~~there~~ ^{there} ever what had been a stable for a town house. Until he got a job and his own place. Izzy B and Sarah and "il and I after I met Lil remained friends. I spent quite a few of the hours of his vigil when Sary was in labor, at old and ugly George Washinton Univ. Hospital, ^{with him} and during the was, when I was away, "il often babysat for them so they could have a night out together. This digression to report about old friends.

The then editor of Click became a friend. He ultimately lost that job because he published my anti-Nazi exposes and, as I did with a number of others, I took him to Washington and got him connected with the war effort. He got to own the first good music station after ~~WJLA~~ I'd been his news and special events editor for a couple of years, and, reminded by being reminded of PM, he and Ralph "ngersoll, after PM folded, planned another daily. I was to have been city editor. Nothing came of that venture other than that they'd planned it. Instead this former editor, Bob Rogers, organized and ran Eggheads for Eisenhower. He also managed the "ational Symphony for a couple of years and, after selling his interest in the DC station, started one down in the Virginia hunt country.

Yes, the mostly fair and belated tribute to Izzy Stone reminds me of much and I'm very glad to see the story, for which thanks.

Merely curiosity, but Sam and I almost never went to bed without reading the bulldog edition of the old Stern Phila. paper. I don't remember Izzy's byline in it and would like to know if he does. I remember the columnists we liked, like Broun and McIntire, and the great cartoonist, Jerry Doyle, and the reporter who worked with Smedley Butler to expose the banking-house plot to overthrow FDR, name escaping me for the moment, but I don't recall Izzy working for the record. The reporter is Paul Comly French and the last time I saw him, such a great New Dealer and liberal was

Stern, he'd been fired and was working on a WPA project officed above a pier along the Delaware, second floor. French and Butler did testify before a Congressional committee on the plot. The old general, Butler, then Phila's director of public safety, was to have led a march mounted on a white horse.

Best to you all,