

12/16/68

Dear Russ,

Just returned last night from an unscheduled but necessary trip to New Orleans and am more than ever pressed for time. Your letter of 12/5, not post-marked until 12/9, and your photocopy from Parade and the copy of your article in the Torch arrived today.

The CIA quote is perhaps not exact. I will sooner or later have to be getting for myself, so if you do, please let me know. My first choices for the source would be a) Schlesinger and b) Sorensen, in their books.

If you are paranoid, then I also am, for in COUP D'ETAT I say what you do by about dividing the country and go a step farther: say it was designed so that it would result in an acceptable move to the right, to require an authoritarian response that would make an authoritarian shift in the government acceptable to the liberals and demanded by the right.

The burglaries make sense, do they not?

I want to give Harrison's chief investigator copies of what Mort said. He already has plenty of trouble with the Shaw trial, which I think will now come off, and I'd like him to be as prepared as possible for the use of any such things.

The facilitator of the left are among our living tragedies.

Gotta hurry.

Sincerely,

Harold Eisberg

December 5, 1968

Dear Harold,

Some success and some failure. The Malcolm X article is definitely going to be printed, it's merely a question of which of two papers here is going to do it. The failure is that after two months Henry Regnery Company ~~is~~ finally decided they didn't like my novel. I'm planning on spending the rest of this month deciding what to do with it next.

I wanted to point out that what I sent you about Malcolm was nothing that couldn't have been developed by someone else -- a lot of it has -- all I did was go through the old newspapers and use some common sense. If you're going to use it and you want to give me credit for it, go ahead (after the printing of the article I'll no longer be able to be anonymous) but you should also be sure to mention Eric Norden in relation to it.

Between the copy of the article you read and the one I finally settled on, I came across a very interesting thing that hasn't been tied together before, it might be useful to you. Edward Bennet Williams got the Hayler-Butler-Johnson appeal in late 1966. Also in 1966 Edward Bennet Williams got a new partner: Paul R. Connolly. In 1966 Paul R. Connolly, together with a lawyer named E.B. Prettyman, Jr. were defending a CIA agent named Juri Raus in a slander suit brought against him by Erik Heine. The CIA's counsel Lawrence Houston got into the case with them. This is fully explained by David Wise and Thomas B. Ross in their book THE ESPIONAGE ESTABLISHMENT. So when Williams got this appeal his partner was obviously a CIA-approved lawyer who was working hand-in-hand with them in a case where the CIA man admitted he had slandered Erik Heine, but said it was okay because he'd been ordered by CIA to do it.

I'm enclosing a copy of an article that you may or may not have seen. It leads to some interesting speculation on my part. See what you think of it: You're a small, elite group of people who think you know the way the country should be, most of all you're interested in protecting the special interests of your own people, mostly very rich. One of your own people who you'd counted on begins to act in a way contrary to your philosophy, so you kill him, making it look like the Left did it. Because of this a group of people break off from the Middle and move to the Right, and a lot of the Right moves further Right. A little later a Black Nationalist leader begins to look like he's going to get somewhere, so you wipe him out, making it look like other Black Nationalists did it. This causes a schism in the Black Nationalist movement -- that was already cracking -- and the Black Nationalists who know who did it don't trust White people anymore making it impossible for them to get together with Whites for many more years than it would've taken otherwise. Then you knock off a Civil Rights leader making it look like the Right did it: a lot of people in the Middle move Left, the people on the Left begin hating the people on the Right, the Far Right thinks it's a great thing &

oughta be done more often. Then you take care of the other fellow from your own ranks by having some "furriner" kill him, following that with a sniper who's also a "furriner," and have some furriners plot to kill the new President and whether they succeed or not you win because you've begun to establish a xenophobic reaction in the country.

While this is going on you're letting the Left develop into quite a force. And when the Left gets out on the street you let them get away with it enough times for the Right to get angry and start hating the Left and for some from the Middle to move Right, and other times they go out on the street and you totally brutalize them so they begin to hate both the Middle and the Right. So you have the Right hating the Left, the Left hating the Right, and the people in the Middle are so damned scared they'll do anything to not be scared anymore. So you have a polarized country that's beginning to show xenophobic tendencies and the vast majority of people -- the Middle -- are in favor of anything that'll bring back peace and quiet. That's when you move in, with the Right, and rewrite the Constitution, pass an Internal Securities Act, and the next thing you know your little group controls what's happening in the country and you've got all the radicals -- Left and Right -- locked away.

Maybe it's just rampant paranoia, but that's the way it's beginning to look to me.

I went to a couple of those meetings that I mentioned in our last phone conversation, where the Communist Party was getting together with some of the student groups to set up an alliance. It looked pretty good for a while -- about six or seven hours -- but when they began to talk about picking something ~~xxxx~~ for all of ~~us~~ us to read so that we could discuss it at the next meeting, I figured I must've been in the wrong place. They obviously think we've got the next couple years to get together, and I tried to explain to them that maybe we only had a limited amount of time and perhaps we should talk about some action, but they just thought I was nervous or something. Too bad.

Q've been so damned busy I haven't had time to look for that Mort Sahl tape. I Do you have a copy of Mark's interview in The Enquirer (not Philadelphia) where he talked about the "emissaries" and Robert Kennedy? If not I'll send you a copy of it.

I don't envy your position at all, but I spend a lot of time these days feeling sorry for myself because I have to deal with these so-called Leftists in this city almost daily. I'm continually being put in the role of prophet of doom by these falsely-optimistic so-called revolutionaries. And being able to one-day say "I told you so" ~~it~~ will hardly be a consolation.

Guess that's all for now. Take care.



Russ

Harold,

Came across something else of interest. I was just filing away my carbon of the two pages of letter to you and came across a question in your last letter to me that I never answered. You asked if my Selective Service File indicated who the source of the espionage on me was. My former wife gave them a wealth of information, she brought up the contacts with RAM to them, she knew I was corresponding with you and told them that, and mentioned Garrison as a possible connection. However, all that was in a very incoherent letter and she exaggerated enough to make it unbelievable.

BUT! In my last personal appearance at the draft board I asked them why they'd changed my classification, because there was nothing in the file about it, and they said THEY HAD GOTTEN INFORMATION FROM OTHER -- UNIDENTIFIED SOURCES -- WHICH DID NOT APPEAR IN MY FILE. This is clearly in violation of the Selective Service Law, which states that ALL information considered must be reproduced in writing and made a part of the registrant's file. What kind of information could they have gotten that couldn't be made a ~~public record~~ private record in my file? I guess it's obvious.

Now in relation to it's being obvious: I'm a very meticulous person when it comes to saving things people have written me and I've written them. I have birthday and Christmas cards people sent me years ago! I don't always get around to sorting them out by date, but I always have them. In addition I have an almost photographic memory and seldom forget things that I consider important. (I put them off a lot, but never forget them.) So when I went to put the carbon in my file I figured it was a good time to sort out our correspondence, and I find a couple things missing. I'm missing your letter of January 15, 1968, or thereabouts, in which you acknowledged receipt of the first transcripts, etc that I sent you. The envelope is there, the letter is gone. I'm missing the letter and the envelope of the letter you sent me in July where you talked about the possibility of my going to Florida. And I'm missing the Certified Mail receipts for the things I sent to you Certified. No wonder I'm paranoid and nervous.



20 **The Looming Constitutional Crisis**

NEW YORK POST, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1968

WASHINGTON, (CDN)—A "time bomb" is ticking on Capitol Hill.

If and when it goes off, it could cause a paralyzing crisis in government and the first national constitutional convention since 1787.

Members of Congress are genuinely worried by what one Senator has called "a massive assault on the Constitution of the U.S."

Such a possibility, together with the specter of an un-

certain Presidential election and another violent summer, has raised doubts about the American political process among the most optimistic men in Congress.

"We all worry about the obvious problems—Vietnam, poverty, inflation," said a mid-western Senator. "But few people are paying attention to the possibility that we may be facing more serious crisis within our government."

The most imminent crisis

arises from Article V of the Constitution, which says that "Congress . . . on the application of the several legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments . . ."

For nearly 10 years right-wing groups such as the Liberty Lobby and the John Birch Society have been seeking certain "liberty amendments" to the Constitution, which would set a limit in income taxes and curtail the power of the Supreme Court.

These campaigns got nowhere until 1964, when the Supreme Court ordered state legislatures reapportioned on a "one-man, one-vote" basis. In Congress, a group of lawmakers, headed by Senate Republican Leader Dirksen (Ill.), sought by legislation or amendment to water down, or set aside, the court's ruling. All these attempts have failed.

Spurned by Dirksen
Hence, in an attempt to circumvent Congress, Dirksen has inspired a campaign to get state legislatures to take advantage of Article V.

During the last three years the legislatures of 32 states, acting with little deliberation and publicity, have passed resolutions calling on Congress for a constitutional convention. Only two more are needed to reach the necessary two-thirds, and there is a good chance at least two of the legislatures now in session will pass resolutions.

"The odds are pretty good it will happen," said an aide to Sen. Tydings (D-MD.), who has led the opposition to Dirksen. "That's why we're sitting on a powder keg."



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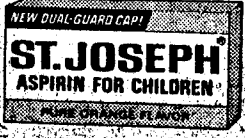
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Harold,
Have you ever come across this quote before? Do you have any idea where the quote came from? I could use some details on it if you have them. If you don't have them, I thought it'd interest you.

Russ

surgery performed on his nose and jaws?—J. W., Affton, Mo.

A. No.

Q. Who started the CIA? Is it controlled by the FBI? Did President Kennedy try to break it up?—Mrs. B Jordan, San Francisco, Calif.

A. President Truman established the CIA in 1946. President Kennedy became so upset over the Bay of Pigs fiasco that he threatened "to splinter the CIA into a thousand pieces and throw it to the winds." He asked his brother, Robert Kennedy, then Attorney General, to take it over and shake it up. Robert Kennedy made more than 30 organizational and policy changes which, say insiders, strengthened rather than splintered the agency. His control over the CIA was strictly personal. No one else in the Justice Department, least of all the FBI, ever had any authority over the CIA.

Q. I would like to know more about Liberace's beaded suit. How much did it cost? Is it sewn by hand?—J. W., Affton, Mo.

A. Liberace has more beaded suits than the average man has shirts. He pays upwards of \$1500 apiece, all delicately hand sewn.

Q. The Case Against Congress, the book by Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson—did it have any effect on the congressional elections? Is congressional reform dead?—R. N., Newark, N.J.

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