

2/5/69

Dear Russ,

Airmail out of Chicago is pretty slow these days. Your letter of 1/31 arrived this a.m. I can tell it was postmarked 3 p.m. 1963 by reading the postmark. And the two torn little pieces along the edge of the flap tells me that when you put rubber cement on, it was along the outside of the flap only. Aren't you the clever one, though!

You did very well with Butler, who is really a slippery guy, as only a man not concerned with truth (or reality) can be. I'll return to this. But I'll be hurrying because I've got only the conclusions to the new book/new addition to POST MORTEM to read and I've read it and will start cleaning up after my last trip, to N.O. then get back to writing stuff that has been accumulating for a year. Very tired, too.

Have you a copy or a copy of that part of Marshall's Princeton address?

Be interesting if you get anything from Sieberg. I doubt he knows anything. I've met lots of nuts who do not think they are.

No need to apologize for Conway's intro. You have been helpful

Interesting that B has the tape of the Fyne show when, after a year, they haven't sent it to me, although I asked for it and they promised it.

Interesting you should mention Worthy in the same mail as another friend. I wish he could get here and see what I have. I do not know how much Bernabei has. We've never met, but I like him.

I do not expect to be in N.O. for the remainder of the trial. I consider what I'm going here more important. You'll eventually be able to judge for yourself.

The problem of appraising an encounter with a slime like Butler is that of appraising the audience. I think you did real well. I will debate him again, but not with another crooked moderator.

I read the transcript in haste this a.m. What I'd like to suggest, since Conway has pretty much the same audience daily, is that he give me a chance to respond in an unusual way. What I'd like to do is take a few of Butler's more obvious lies and malevolent distortions and give them visuals to use. For example, where he refers to that alleged 3-hour Castro harangue, he is using the Portell-Vila crap discredited by Hoover (he was in person with Portell-Vila in the YAF kangaroo-court on the reds in DC a year ago). I'd like to send him photocopies of the FBI report saying there was nothing to it and that page of O. in N.O. with what I did say. Which is that in the real speech he did make Castro laid it on some of Butler's buddies. That letter to the SWP? I'd send him photocopies of that and the identical one sent the same day to the CP, and the commentary of the Journal of Forensic Sciences, saying what is obvious. It would be so nice if they could play Butler's exact words back over this. One of the problems is that the bastard writes his own dictionary as he goes. But I could do a half-dozen such things and then I'd suggest Conway (Fest-Dumont) write him and ask a few specific questions because of his pretended disassociation from the right wing (He lives of 'em and with 'em, being to the right of most). He'd probably not answer. He may be less willing to lie in writing. I think it would be only fair to me, because none of the things he said about me bear any relationship to reality, and would be an interesting pillip. I do not care too much, really, but I think it could be fun and would certainly show the media n

samples of the kinds of lies they accept. If there were not a few thousand Communists in the country, Butler would have to invent them or starve. It is simply incredible that nuts like him can parasite on the richer nuts. They must all be masochists!

Torch copy not enclosed. Vallee stuff very interesting, esp. in estimating the man whose wife would not respond. Thatx is a different date than I think was first in the papers.

I believe the JFK-CIA quote was after the Bargboorn(?) incident.

Hope Ivan Dee is right!

Best to you both, and thanks,