

1/14/80

Dear Russ,

Dates on Chicop-Klan story from 12/28/67. I will be getting Wash Post stories beginning next day, either AP or LA Times orig, copy. No UPI, no Chi papers yet.

Donald Heath was "ringleader" He was 30. He and Richard Stanton, 33, Jon Johansson, 26, were from the Fillmore District. Dennis Alsia was from the Austin District. William Plogger, 43, and Ernest Semet, no dope on assignment.

Thus far, besides Groth, I've seen only these names of the 14 in the killing: Fred Howard, Wm. Kelley, Lynwood Harris (black).

This case will get to either criminal or civil court. If the Panthers have any sense, they'll take this to civil court, as they can, perhaps through proxies. They can accomplish much thereby, and I think they should have filed by now. Of course, there is good reason to await the completion of the inquest testimony, otherwise the cops would take the fifth. But was soon as that is over, especially because it is now no secret that feebees are in on grand-jury actions, should they take the initiative. There are things prohibited in criminal actions that are not in civil ones, and they can either get the whole damned story out or establish the clearest perjury. Today, even in Chicago, that could mean something.

I've cut the hell out of the appendix to both COUPS because it so long now. And I'm holding the notes down, eliminating much of what I'd planned, for the same reason.

Nothing else new. When I went out to feed the pheasants this a.m., noticing yesterday they are now coming close to the house, I found snowbanks I hadn't been near so hard I could walk on them. Some crust! Parts of the lane ~~is~~ still pretty rough, but better than only passable. If we can have a little sun and no snow for a few days, it may improve further.

Being able to get WBEM, even with relatively poor reception every night this week, gives me a little more. They raked bark over the coals. From the ~~the~~ story (UPI) in yesterday's Post, they did not exaggerate. That bastard would do anything, no matter what the hurt to others, to get his name used or try and sell his books. If the testimony went at all like reported, he hurt the defense. They were rather well prepared for him, so well I found myself if St. Edgar had backgrounded.

Best to you both,