

1/8/70

Dear Russ,

I've just written the part of the notes on the Vallee appendix in which I work in credit to you. I have tried to do it in a way that will not lead to your friend. It may suggest to any who may have the interest that you did only the Corley part, although it actually says otherwise. In going over the letters I note you were concerned about retaliation against your friend, a reason you did not get one paper, because tracing to him would have been too easy.

If there is anything you do not like about it, please let me know. Also, if you think I have omitted what should be in, please tell me. Lil will be working tomorrow and I'll be writing more or less in the blind, for the final typing is hers and the fit is close. I'll have to take it page at a time and try and avoid confusion where a legend on one page relates to copy on the next. But if I do not do it this way, I'll be out of space immediately.

Lil is typing the credit-containing one now and making a carbon that I'll enclose. If there are typos in it I'll not stop to paste it up tonight (too late) because I'm sure you'll dope it out.

We are having Chicago weather today. Hope I can get the car started in the a.m. Couldn't today. High today was about 10 above so it was zero or lower during the night. It is supposed to get colder tonight. And the damned lane drifted shut again, last night and I think it is doing it again now. Last night Lil worked later and in the dark, with the snow deep enough to stop the car, I didn't dare back in (the turnaround has three-four feet of snow I'm not about to dig). So, when I finally got it started today, I had to back out through drifts and at high speed, to buck through the drifts. Coming in tonight I lost control, but the lane is like a canyon, like a toboggan slide, with the sides hard, so every time I hit one side it turned me toward the other. It was a wild, movie-like ride, but we made it, we have fuel oil, and I do hope the battery, now in its sixth year(!), will turn it over in the a.m. Its worse here than in Chi. I'm listening to BBM. It is 3 above there and they expect a low of but zero.

I hope you understand that these notes will go under the documents in the appendix.

I think that when I've finished with this, put it together and condensed, we'll be in a better position to use if some worthwhile use appears possible. If the weather doesn't prevent it, I expect two people, one a friend of Gregory's, who may have some ideas other than mine. One is unusually well-connected with blacks, the other better than most. I'll keep you posted if they have any ideas. Aside from the fact that it is the same guy, it does not immediately add up to anything the average person will regard as significant. I'd sure love to be able to read all of Groth's inquest testimony. According to ABC TV news, which we saw only by accident, he says none of the weapons allegedly taken in the raid was checked for prints. He who swallows that has a cast-iron-lined gut. It is enough to convince me none were there, although I'd have expected some. Also, have you see the story Hampton had three times the amount of secenal in him required to put him to sleep? Adam Clayton Powell says there was an agent in the group attacked ~~franklin~~ by the police (last night, or, rather, this a.m., on the Merv Griffin Show.

Best,

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