

1/11/70

Dear Russ,

Here are carbons of the uncorrected annotations on the Vallee appendix. I should have sent you all of them, not just the part I did. However, these will give you some of my thinking, some of yours/Harvey's and, I think, also indicate the areas in which we have more work to do - and should. I will also be adding to the draft of Chapter 18 of the addition, which you have not seen. If you have xeroxing available and want it, when I have a copy to spare I'll lend it to you. I am expecting a copy of a copy reduced by half, two pages to a sheet, which will reduce the cost and work. However, if you do not have xeroxing facilities available, and if you want a copy, let me know.

I wrote you about Madden, based on what I'd found in the clippings the stranger left for me when I appeared on WBBM, what I have in the original text (158-9). However, I missed something. He is also the detective notified. I believe it is urgent that we get the names of all those involved in the recent murders because I think, if we ever get proper identification, we may find that "Task Force Area 1" may be the State's Attorney's crew. "Beat No. 4299" is also indicated. There are inconsistencies above those I point out, but this exploits every bit of available space as closely as I dare compute it.

Something we both missed is that not Hester but Len O'Connor was in charge of Corley's investigation. Is there any way of getting in touch with him to see what he recalls? Was he still at NBC when you spoke to Corley? The FBI was very careful to avoid O'Connor, so far as we have been able to locate, identify and obtain documents. I have, through a lawyer, asked for a list of all withheld docs. Often I got no answers and when I do they are very long delayed. I have asked another friend to ask for any documents under the names of the others mentioned. (You have copies of all the documents I have, local and federal.)

(PH-please add Len O'Connor to list.)

I started these before daylight, have given them to Lil to type neatly, and now have to start digging out our lane again, for it drifted closed once again and the forecast is for more snow. With this on my mind I may here have forgotten to call to your attention what you will spot in the notes, so please read them carefully (and make any comments you deem appropriate). To a large degree I am in accord with Harvey's professional opinion, but not on the rifle. That could be called "concealed" if it was anywhere in the car. If you compare this with the Madden quotes (pp. 158-9), I think you'll agree they didn't expect him to knife the Pres. If there is any meaningful report, it undoubtedly is in a special file, like in the State's Attorney's office, or special police files, not the regular ones. If I were to make guesses, at 10 a.m., which would have been an hour after the President had taken off, had he made the trip, Groth had either just been notified and in turn notified Madden or his own investigation had gotten to the point where he could anticipate the arrest and thus notified Madden. If the actual arrest was at or about 3:30, the time given, of earlier, the time of mugging and printing being given at 1:30, either Vallee was not at work that day or worked an odd shift. His failure to be at work and his being so armed might, indeed, be indication of serious intent. All that ammo is not something to carry for "protection". More likely for a possible siege...I have made certain unanswered inquiries of friends in the ADL and will make them again. But do you now see my interest in that KKK call? I wish I had time to check it at the library, in both the Chicago and New York papers. We might get some interesting names, station houses, etc. Note that Schurle and Groth both give the same address, "5700 S. Cottage Grove" Is that the address of "20th District", where they took Vallee?...There is much potential here, but too much still unknown, too much yet to do to give it the potential current significance I believe it has.

Best to both,

1/11/70

Dear Paul,

The enclosed letter to my good friend who helped with the Chicago Vallee investigation gives you some of my thinking, some of what I had indicated to you and may add to what Hall will tell you. Some of it may not be clear, without the Chicago police records, but copying them will make too deep a dent in my diminishing supply of 30 paper and, not being able to buy more now, I must conserve it.

I'd appreciate it if you could add Len O'Connor, NBC Chicago reporter, to the list of names to be checked. If Jim has time to check the NYTimes index for the disclosure of the Klan cell in Chicago, that would help, I think. Maybe Charlie Brown has time. If she has she'll do it for me, I believe. Hal knows her or you can reach her where she works, 981-6250. I do not have her home address. If the Chicago papers are not available there, I may be able to arrange to get copies of the stories through Washington sources.

I have not taken up with Bud including this in the suit, but with the same guy the chief Black Panther killer, FBI suppression of what was known and could not be for Vallee's protection may make it possible. I think it is probably feasible. The decision will have to be his. He knows of this, generally. I showed him the file, but I think both his eye and his comprehension stopped when he saw "French-American" for Vallee's ancestry because he thinks that is strange.

Last week I asked him to get in touch with the microfilmer but he was unable to. We were to have lunched with him last week, but he was not available, may be the early part of this week. Unless he is I do not expect to go to DC for other purposes until Saturday, when I have to but can do nothing at the Archives. I presume it is the weather that kept those who were to have come here from so doing, so I have nothing further to report on that...We can also ask Jerry or maybe Stan to do the NYTimes if it cannot be done there, but I do not know how close to the library Stan gets and Jerry works days and goes to college nights. He is also working on Kaka-P for Gary when he can...I believe I have only one more large hunk of current appendix to do before it is complete and I can return to Ch 18. When I get it and app done I'll see if I can get Bud to make copies or I'll send back NOR copy, without app., or I'll use my dwindling paper. I cannot part with original.

Sincerely,