

Mr. Haynes Johnson
Washington Post
1150 45 St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

2/12/85

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Ah! What you missed when you consulted the Book of Luke! The part about the stones crying out. And more on peace, not (star) wars.

I have a unique way of recalling this, as the enclosed copies indicate. After some thought I came to agree with Mike Gravel's administrative assistant.

I knew Izzy Stone from before he changed his name, when I was a Senate editor and sent him galley proofs, and I knew he lived on Nebraska Ave., not in Rockville. There was no Luke St. in Rockville. So, I asked my wife to type the page of the Book of Luke and I enclose a carbon still in the file.

What appears to be gibberish is rather sophisticated and with the assistance of friends ranging from an old "China Hand" who'd retired from a lifetime with AP to a lexicographer it was possible, very laboriously, to "translate" enough to perceive possible threats against Teddy Kennedy and George McGovern (in 1971).

In the end I was reasonably certain I'd identified "Ockie," both the author and the reference, to William of Occam (Ockham), whose (medieval) philosophy was to see the simplest solutions.

But I have no idea how Rothstein or "Ockie" knew of me.

Best wishes,



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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

June 4, 1971

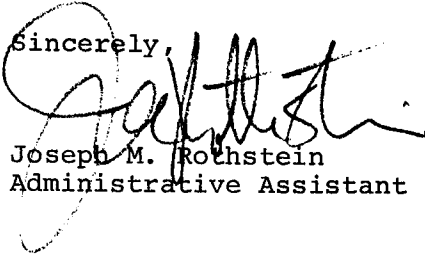
Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 8
Frederick, Maryland

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I recently received the enclosed material in the mail. At first I thought it was a joke by one of my friends. After investigating it further I decided the humor looked too black to be a joke.

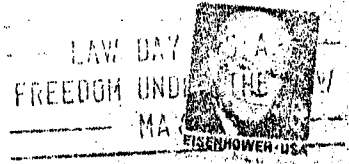
As a very long shot, I wonder if this letter may have been meant for you.

Sincerely,


Joseph M. Rothstein
Administrative Assistant

Enclosure

I. F. Stone
1940 Lake St.



J. M. Rothstein
1018 Dead Run Drive
McLean, Virginia

Can Mr. Weisberg translate?

The Constable from Barnstable - (known by mothers as magister of horse)
asks: "Wasn't Lee in Irving's bedroom?"

Duncan
(barfly heir of Earl George Saade)

E.S.P.

Have you ordered your plate of Chou Mein from The Glebe and Mouse
nightspot (a Ball & Chain fission chip log-ic billingsgate featuring
folie of sole)?

Hashed tona on wheat (De plain? Pop!), with spinach.

Next! Vigoro de Lilacs sheers the ears of Senator McGovern.

Ockie.

St. Luke 19:

37. And when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen;
38. Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.
39. And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke ~~easy~~ thy disciples.
40. And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.
41. And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it,
42. Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.
43. For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side,
44. And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knowest not the time of thy visitation.
45. And he went into the temple, and began to cast out them that sold therein, and them that bought;
46. Saying unto them, It is written. My house is the house of prayer: but ye have made it a den of thieves.
47. And he taught daily in the temple. But the chief priests and the scribes and the chief of the people sought to destroy him,
48. And could not find what they might do: for all the people were very attentive to hear him.