

*filed under
Segretti*

11/17/72 The beginning of a long-delayed repair of the lane, which precludes concentrated work, permits the overdue reading of the last batch of WC clips. Baker's "Bogart" column is great!...Roberts' 10/16 NYT Segretti story has provocative graph about him as a peacenik and an office yet! Too inconsistent, too suggestive of moonlighting, as informant or provocateur. "Free Huey" yet! Lower, his then associates had this notion. Seems like a longtime spook. How else can one be in the Army and still fly hither and yon?...NYT 10/17, item "smoke detectors". Remember the "ARI" devices in the indictment? Aren't "smoke detectors" rather unusual political supplies?

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Dear Tom,

quasi

Principled people often can't do anything about some of their principles. The cost can be too great.

I am also aware that sometimes the prospect of profit also is not enough.

But there are variations between taboo subjects, some under some circumstances can be touched.

I think there is a helluva story in what has come to be known as The Watergate. I've been more than on top of it: I've been well ahead of its public disclosures (all of which I also have). I have what has not yet been disclosed.

There were special reasons for my initial interest. One is the crossing of my literary path in 1965 by one of the principals, then in CIA and in domestic intelligence. He seems to have killed a deal I had with the SEPost for serialization.

If I've not devoted myself to the CIA's domestic-intelligence activities, I have: carbons of some of the reports to them on my public appearances; bills rendered for the service by the commercial front they used, to their own front established for such purposes; checks from that front in payment; envelopes in which checks were mailed; transcripts of getting approval for the surveillance ("That old nemesis of the CIA, Mr. Harold Weisberg, is coming to town next week". "Oh, Goodie, Goodie!"—even a tape of my own conversation with the national manager of the commercial front used.

The operation of which The Watergate was part was run by former CIA people—almost all (the exception among those charges was only FBI, but some were both). The technique is traditional intelligence "special operations".

I can't begin to tell you the whole story.

If you can see a book if not more in this, I'd rather not write it. I'd rather collaborate or "as told to". I could not, for example, write about my own in-advance analyses, substantiated by developments.

Your special skill is promos. I can file suits against the CIA and the White House under the Freedom of Information act any time I want. I've done all the necessary. I think I can file a civil suit against the CIA for damages done me. A lawyer tells me I have enough to get into court and file interrogatories or take depositions.

It is too early for responsible writing, but not for planning and beginning. It is inevitable that more will come out. I have some of it, not nearly all, though.

If you know anyone interested, I'd like to hear.

Best regards,

Harold Weisberg