

10/13/71

Dear Js,

Now that I've met all the requirements of copyrighting except executing the aff. and filing the copies at the Lib.Cong., I'm going to try and catch up on some mail before lunch. After that I'm going into town to execute the oath, gas for the a.m., etc., and when I can return I'll work again without interruption (I hope), partly preparing for what I must undertake tomorrow. We do face a potential crisis that can be very serious. Under the circumstances, depending on odds is inadequate.

Allan Mancino: last night I had to continue working on the copying of the book. The machine was not working well. It would overheat intermittently and then I'd have to wait for it to cool. It went not until then that I had a chance to pay any close attention to any mail. When I saw Je's excellent workup on what is possible, whether or not it is fact, I made several copies and today am sending them to a good friend who is with Bantam and is the one who hosted Mrs. Jackson at her NY press conference (Bantam arranged). If it didn't get much press attention, I understand she was quite impressive. I've read Soledad Brothers (her voice, taped, had much to do with effecting publication). This friend occasionally consults me about such matters, is close to that thing, so he will be that much better prepared and he has a copy for anyone he thinks can use it. I am sure he'll forward one.

Pix I may know more tomorrow. When in DC I'll phone Arch. and see if exposed film is ready. I have asked that a special film be used, have a local friend who processes color, and can proceed from there. The problem is not one of breaking down the official mythology but of going further, for the pix may provide the possibility. You'll understand more when you see the last part of PM (which I can lend for not too long now), not a hint that you drop everything and read and besides, the two earlier parts should be read first. Many thanks and I'll let you know. The financial bit is getting pretty de pressing. The bank was, as usual, fine. But my publisher! I can't use adequate words. He has beat me out of more than \$4,000 on the advance alone, has invented fictitious charges, and has yet to do anything to promote, even with Bishop now getting air time. I've raised questions with the Shows and have thrice written FCC. The best I can do is reduce pub's loss, but even that he doesn't attempt. I do appreciate the help. We are now going from day-to-day, almost. Someone else agreed to pay the cost of copying this missing part, but it has exceeded the estimate based on faulty arithmetic (it is actually a bit less than correct counting would have made it). However, I think he'll keep his word. The only reason we had this \$300 is because one of the decent who owed me \$70.00 remembered it. In any event, and not for needless discussion, what I have now proved is that not one part of either the medical nor the ballistic or the clothing evidence remains intact. Some is destroyed. The pix I have and have traced show that the clothing has been altered, that is, the know untied, as you know, and the holes changed by the removal of more material. Or, none of the essential evidence exists in its original form. I think this is true of 100% of the essential evidence in these categories. But the dispersal of blood that became clear in the pix is what now fascinates and may tell what we didn't know. Cyril seems out on this, but I've made arrangements with a clinical rather than a forensic pathologist (of whom there is one in Phila. I think I can trust). As I assume you assumed, this is not just idle curiosity or a desire to acquire.

Those John Sloan stamps are great. Our P.O. cancels inadequately and I've reused 2 of the last mailings! Big stamps.

This stuff on in-jail violence is exactly what I wanted, but the situation has changed radically and I'll have to use it indirectly, through Jerry. I fear that unless a glimmer of hope emerged from the unreported Jackson, Tenn., hearing of the sixth, Ray may attempt to break. I am certain it is his intent, for I am used to looking between the lines and I am coming to understand him better. He is a bit excessive in indicating the contrary in what goes through censorship (and he sometimes circumvents it). So, were I to carry on as I have with him on dangers to him, it might later appear that it is I not others who are prompting such a futility. I am also convinced others are. So, I'll send this to Jerry when I've time. He'll be there in two weeks. He was supposed to come here from there and paint my house (the paranoid in me, natch!). I've heard no recent word on this and the crime will

preclude save for middle of day. He offered when I asked what he'd charge to do it for the to-and-from Knoxville cost. I'll raise it for the paint has been peeling for three years. It simply has to be done or the rot, already a problem, will get greater.

file cabinets: My one experience with the corrugated has disappointed. I have a few metal transfer cases and I have two pre-WW II, perhaps WWI oak cabinets that are coming apart. We sometimes have too much humidity here. I think that I was merely chatting about an idea Lil has for solving one of my problems. I'm beginning to remove inactive files into a jumble of old metal transfer cases I've accumulated over the years, in the basement. I have an old Legal-size 4-drawer cabinet that louses up my small office, where I need another and only 26" letter-sized one. Lil's idea was, if I didn't make it clear, to look for a second-hand, 2-drawer legal sized on that I could put on our jalousied porch, which adjoins my office, underneath an old TV I put there to make room in her office, where we'd had it, when I moved her sewing machine there so she'd not have to use the cellar steps after she fell this summer and hurt her knee. With experiences like yours, what I've done instead with rarely-used files is resort to boxes, for we do have a large and quite disorderly cellar. And, as I get older and more tired, as I find those I can trust with some, I'm unloading them. I gave a great young fellow a treasure in SAsia files going way back. He'll use them. I'll not now get to it. I use my files much to much to use anything like the Prontos regularly. When I dare, I get another file. They can't be the same, for each time I hunt bargains. So, aside from two-drawer cabinets, of which I use four for the desk, on both sides of which I work (it is home-made), I have five different cabinets, four different colors, four different sizes. The 2-drawer one are all identical. Since writing you I've seen the clerk of the local auction. He'll be looking for cabinets of any kind for me. I'll always have some use. Those 8 oak drawers have what can't be replaced, all pre-WWII. Much of that has disappeared, including most of a planned book on the old Dies Com ittee. In extremis the Hollywood Ten borrowed those files from me and those rich bastards never said thanks and never ~~sent~~ returned a single paper. The same is also true of trades-union lawyers of that era, who also called on me for help. But what remains is valuable. It is quite a file in the Saintly Indispensible One.

Two clips for which you asked return enclosed. If Kleindienst is nominated, I may ask to appear in opposition. I'm seeing member Sen.Jud.Com tomorrow p.m. Old friend. I have quite a record. Noe sit tight and latched mouth. David Belin is one of the Supreme court nominees. Unless the tip would do you good. I've not decided whether to leak it. If it can do you good, it may be too late by the time you get this, but if not and you want to use, phone and I'll tell you what I know. after Texas Observer and corres. that is worse.

Wash. H.O. hearing: I've not yet looked at clips, but my recall is sharp. I was very much part of it. And I need only for future, not to have to depend on recall. Thanks. I'll read later. Nothing needed for book besides what I have, I'm sure, Thanks also for the clearer typed Ray copy. Some of it holds poss. Leads. That retyped or typed DePugh stuff, alas, I knew. I had Bud write the K.C.DA and got confirmation. But the last graph is interesting and I'll raise with Jerry before he sees James. On DeP: It is not impossible that this is what happened. He had rich friends and five of his boys were among the ten caught in a raid on the fourth (count them diary) Cuban camp north Lake Pontchartrain. His people well -co negged there. The report originated with Harry Jones, I believe KC Star.

...When I'm making up the master of a hoped-for book, my means are primitive. For example, I use neither wax nor rubber cement (I have the latter). I use magic tape, which requires burnishing or the entrapped air shows on cam era as gray tones. So, until I finish with all of PM, including the appendix, my daily schedule (which this week hasn't included any early a.m. walks) will be changed because these show best under natural light, for a reason I can't explain. After tomorrow, daytime is makeup time. Ltrs, etc, before and after.... Pro - gress report on blanket: while I was copying last night, Lil looked at evening TV news on TV and something else, I don't know what, because I'd forgotten to leave corrections in PM where she could find them. She is not up to middle of bottom line, date. I like colors. Hope you do (pl.). Many thanks.

Best,

6 October 1971

Dear Harold:

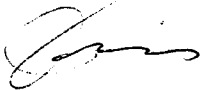
This, with enclosures, will be a partial reply, at least, to your mailings of Sept 26, 29 and 30, and Oct. 2 and 3.

Please go ahead and arrange for the pictures you need. We'll do what we can to help. We'd give you a firmer commitment than that if you could cite us some definite figure, but we know you can't do that. Meanwhile rest assured we'll do what we can, and be glad to.

Yes, you can assume with anything we send you it is not to be returned unless we attach a note asking for its return. This is your own habit and the only reasonable one with so much stuff going back and forth.

One of the enclosures is an FYI copy of a workup Jenifer has done on one Allan Mancino, a peripheral character in the Jackson case. I feel reasonably certain that the only reason some liberal attorney doesn't get him sprung on a writ of habeas corpus is the probably certain knowledge that nowhere in the state of Nevada is a judge who would consider the idea. Apparently absolutely nobody gets in to see this guy. We thought you'd find it interesting in any case, and the possibility exists that this man could become crucial to the whole case if he is not completely brainwashed before anyone gets to him. Never seen any indication of what he's in for -- could be dope; he could have a special weakness they're counting on exploiting. *

That's all for now. Best from us both,



jdw

Well-Informed

*Why didn't he consult his/Source?

"Convicted of robbery in Los Angeles two years ago, the 25 year old Mancino was sentenced to an indeterminate sentence of five years to life, which give him - in prison parlance - a "life top." He is a lifer. Shortly after he arrived in the Soledad facility for which his crime and personality classified him, he was charged with "an infamous crime against nature." Prosecuted in Monterey County, he was sentenced to an additional one to 20 years and transferred to the San Quentin adjustment center." - Robert Patterson, Examiner News Staff, Carson City, Nev., SFExaminer 8 Sep 71.

HW:

Your mentioning that you need a new legal size filing cabinet prompts us to ask if you've explored the possibility of temporary or storage files, made of heavy corrugated paper. The idea is that with them you might clear out some of your older files you're no longer using currently and thus free a usable filing cabinet.

There are two kinds. The first is a simple folded corrugated paper box (15x12x10) long enough to take legal files and just wide enough to take letterhead files. Usually you can get them at any large stationer or office-supply firm and they cost less than \$2.00 each singly, less if you buy several in some cases. They come either with a hinged lid or a separate lid.

The more ambitious kind is what is sold locally under the trade name of "Pronto" and consists of a sleeve with a drawer in it. The sleeve has a metal frame around the front or open end and comes with metal clips which make it possible to stack them. The problem with stacking them is that only the bottom drawer won't drop down when you pull it out. These come either in letterhead or legal size and are 26 inches deep. The legal size costs \$7.25 here, complete with sleeve, and a compressor costs \$1.95 extra. This is a metal strip ~~and~~ that fits into the bottom with a sliding upright piece that keeps less-than-full files compressed. Metal clips for stacking cost a few cents each.

We use Prontos for all our active files. They're a nuisance because although we have them only two deep, we still have to pull out the lower drawer before pulling out the upper one. Otherwise, they're quite satisfactory.

We use the simple storage boxes for old files which are not current and which we don't have to consult very often.

Jenifer recently acquired a variation of this storage type which has an inserted rack to hold suspended files. \$4.75 including 10 suspended filing folders. This is ideal for when she's clipping newspapers and sorting them into different categories for handling later. The folders come with plastic tabs in which the labels can be changed from time to time with a minimum of bother.

You may know all about these possibilities, but in case you don't we remembered how glad we were to learn about them.

jdw6oct71