

11/24/77

Dear Dave,

My friend Jim White, not known to you, has been keeping files beginning with the JFK assassination. They include Watergate, CIA, Nixon, etc. and some dealing with China and the Orient, a special interest to him and his late wife.

During his wife's terminal illness it all got ahead of him. Without his wife's help a project of that nature becomes impossible. So he is not going to continue keeping clippings and files. I am not certain because he may make other arrangements on the west coast, where he lives, but I believe it is possible that these records may be available. I write to ask about - and to urge - your interest and to ask if the shipping costs can be taken off Jim, who has had heavy expenses and is retired, without other than retirement income. The volume is about 20 "banker's" boxes, about letter-size in width and height and legal-size in length or a bout 9x12/15 on the outside.

They mounted their clippings, with care. Most, unlike mine, are probably arranged as logical and keenness of mind indicated. While there will be some duplication beginning at a certain point, I believe this would be an advantage rather than a disadvantage. I'm also confident that for the earlier period they have accounts other than I do. They will have the New York Times, the San Francisco papers, some LATimes syndicate and AP stories and an assortment of other publications.

If their southeast Asia and China clippings are not organized I believe they will be of value, greater value because both spoke Chinese when Jim was an AP reporter in China before World War II. They are steeped in Chinese custom and history, which added an unusual perception to their collection.

Their Watergate records will also include the Washington Post, to which they then also subscribed.

Let me know when you can. If Jim does not have other plans I can speak for you and a deposit there.

Sorry to catch the Central Wisconsin blizzard report on the radio just ~~after~~ after Lesar left for a side trip there. Brrrr!

Best,

To here I'm sending him a carbon. Not this not to embarrass him or to remind him of the greatness of his loss. His wife was a uniquely gifted, magnificent person, with a mind to match. Jim is that way, too. They are midwesterners who settled in the Bay area because they liked it after Jim was assigned there by AP. His reporting experiences extend from Washington to China. I believe both were Japanese prisoners. His experiences, shared by his wife, and their exceptional endowments will certainly be reflected. I forgot, they also monitored radio, including Pacifica, on Viet Nam and such other subjects. They probably have many tapes or transcribed the useful part of them or both. I'm certain they made some notes and comments because I have some and they are very worthwhile. Jim may or may not favor Stanford so please let me know quickly. I have told him that funds are not available for payment but probably are for all shipping costs. Your people can compute the approximate weight and thus the cost from the dimensions and from knowing the approximate weight of the amount of paper in each file box.

HW