

Dear Les,

6/21/82

Don't apologize for enjoying "the good life" or even think in terms of being "sunk" into it. Those of us who have done what we could and still continue to make some effort to write can be useful and deserve some respite and joy.

When I was first hospitalized a cousin I'd not seen in years brought me a rather good Len Deighton novel and got me hooked on reading for enjoyment and relaxation. I'm still hooked. Each morning I drive to a local mall and walk, as much as I can before having to rest and ~~take~~ ^{leg} elevate the damaged ~~leg~~ and foot. I read from a page to two pages, the book being my time clock, and then walk again until I must rest. I can make from a sixth to a third of a mile per ~~morning~~ walk. This means I read from 30 to 60 pages per morning. I also read more at home. I enjoy it and do not consider it a copout.

I can't stand still for long because the blood puddles in the damaged foot, so my wife selects books for me at a local second-hand store, which even has second-hand paperbacks. One was a novel of yours about a Washington reporter. I can't check to get its title because every six weeks, when I go back to Georgetown for a checkup, I take all of them down for other patients. I enjoyed it.

Hope you got that big cutting job done on the novel you were working on when last we were in touch.

Probably I wrote you in great haste and without thinking through what I should tell you in the event you think of someone who might be interested in untold Watergate tales. I think I forget to say that I'm reasonably sure of what is or was on those 18 1/2 minutes of erased Nixon tape. It was easy to scope out of one of your texts is "The Purloined Letter," as mine is. It is discussion of the knowledge of what the FBI had dug up by the time Nixon and Haldeman got back from Florida, by the Monday morning after the Saturday morning breakin. This means that thereafter Nixon and Haldeman, at the very least, had guilty knowledge, including of White House involvement, and of what the FBI knew. Hunt was not nabbed ~~by~~ ^{but the} FBI was onto his

role. And Pat Gray reported it by courier.

I found this in the printed confirmation hearings. The FBI used one of its standard tricks. Gray would tell the Senators that while he did not have ~~xxxx~~ whatever they asked for with him, he'd be glad to provide it. And for the most part he did, but much later. Meanwhile, the reporters at the hearings missed it because, I'm sure, they could not take time after the hearings were over to read the transcript of what they'd heard.

A copy of the memo and a part of what follows is enclosed. I've marked in red a couple of the lies which indicate how rapidly the coverup was on.

The fag lawyer is Caddy. He had been at ^Hullen with Hunt, as I recall ~~xxxx~~ supposedly working for United Fruit. I don't want to trust my recollection after all these years, but I believe that United Fruit was a CIA asset, as was ^Hullen. He is the author of the book to get Douglas impeached. A separate corporation was set up for this, with the Mullen/^Hunt cover address as its address. (That also was the cover address of the man whose Mexico City address was on the same street as the lawyer who laundered the checks. This character disappeared from the DC phone after Watergate.) I've forgotten the exact ^Hunt involvement but I'm certain of his ^{the} involvement in this project and have xeroxes in ~~xxx~~ basement. The CIA involvement is at least through this address, which Hunt had used since about 1969, and I have that nailed tight. I also have a xerox of the book, I believe.

Weybright & Talley, as I recall, is or was a publisher who published ^Hunt's crap, which Helms reportedly had prominently displayed in his office.

Caddy's law firm: John Gall was counsel for the NAM when I worked for the ^{President} Senate. He was strongly anti-labor, was Caddy also was. /Ford endorsed an anti-labor Caddy book after Watergate and Ford, you may recall, also was involved in the efforts to impeach New Deal Supreme Court appointee Fortas, if not also Douglas. My recollection on this also is not clear, but again, I have xeroxes.

Jin Lesar did some checking for me and his recollections may be clearer. ^{the}

also may be able to retrieve some of his xeroxes. In the course of his checking we ran into Tingsun Park and a bunch of CIA covers and fronts, some later exposed. We could not generate any interest then.

I could not interest Woodward or Bernstein in any of this. I did send them many memos and also spoke to them. I do not believe that any of it was ever used anywhere.

There is other sordid stuff, some of which may involve people you may know. A well-known reporter did some of the covering up, although his reputation would indicate that nobody who knew him would have dreamed of his doing anything like that. He knew who Hunt was and covered that up. He also wrote a book I have every reason to believe that at the least the CIA liked. No, at least two such books, one covering up CIA involvement and pointing elsewhere. I have a chapter on this in the bad job I did of the draft of a book when I wasn't well and was angry. And too often smart-alecky. But I'm confident of factual accuracy.

I don't know if this can be done on a day a week basis but if you are interested I'll do and provide all I can. Including, in confidence and to you only, what I have to protect, some of the info about the cover address and who used it.

That my mind, like the rest of me, has faded, does not mean that it or any of me has quit. I'm trying to get some of the FOIA litigation off my back so I can concentrate on writing, but the DJ appears determined to keep me tied up in court so that I cannot write. The first book will be on the King assassination, new information and, I think quite significant. Then I plan one on Oswald. I've been toying with the notion of doing something with what I have on him, meaning one of the many things. He had, if I didn't tell you, top secret and crypto clearances when he was a Marine.

Best wishes,

6/17

Dear Harold,

Good to hear from you even if I am not much of a newsman anymore. I write mostly, write that is novels, poems, reviews an article or two. I do go in and help out at the office a day a week just to keep my hand in, but only on minor stories: ones I can do in a day or less. Still, the CIA-Douglas thing sounds intriguing. Has anyone ever written that the CIA had a hand in the effort to impeach ~~Hi~~ him? My memory is terrible. Maybe you wrote it yourself. If it's fresh I'd be interested in doing something... On the screw job you got on your book (s) I bet you are right. But who would take all the time to do it? I guess that's your question to me, and I don't know. I am too sunk into the good life away from the inferno of D.C. to do it, and most daily reporters who care are already swamped. And you say "tiring mind" -- if your is, God help the rest of us.

All the best,

