

Dear Les,

8/23/85

Two apologies and a high five, the latter first. The lead review the Post gave you is far from excessive. Great book to read for fun. I did this past weekend when I was feeling punk and it helped. My God! What knowledge of wines!..How I wish you met my late great-uncle Max, who was an absolute genius in making a dry Concord, which he learned in "Bessarabia. If this is the book you had to cut by a third, first it doesn't show and second, what a helluva job, what work that must have been!

Congratulations, and I hope it makes both a pot first and a movie next.

First spology, for forgetting to send you the enclosed. I was rushed and I suppose I didn't because I thought that with a breaking story Jack might get burned. It because it is a breaking story, I think with something like Watergate implications not at all impossible, I should have sent it at least for information.

Also, maybe at some time someone in Jack's office may want to know something about how the FBI's informer system works and is controlled. Or how they hide records.

Second ~~apology~~ apology for making a mistake, which I learned later. I'll explain now, which may at some point be interesting separately. I'm happy to say that I've made very few, otherwise the FBI would have had me hanging high, and twisting.

It was known that Oswald had said he'd been interviewed by the MVD. This is how I made that mistake.

I confused it with the KGB.

The entire CIA justification for the incredible abuse it heaped on the defector Nosenko and for persuading everyone, including the Warren Commission, not to pay attention to anything he said, is that it could not be believed that the KGB had not interviewed Oswald. This is what Nosenko said. Not that I can see any difference in this sense between the MVD and the KGB, but it was in my mind that he had not been interviewed through this CIA story.

One of the reasons I did credit Nosenko is that I can't imagine that the Intourist people are not KGB and thus it knew all it needed to know about Oswald.

If the papers do anything with the Presser story and if this Cleveland judge is really offended in having been imposed upon - and his life threatened - there is enormous potential in it because one of the few things that is completely impossible is a self-starting FBI agent handling a symbol informer. There is nothing that is not known on the highest levels at FBIHQ, as I indicate. And I do not see any FBI agent making a goat of himself and subjecting himself to criminal charges for the ghost of the sainted J. Edgar. If he tries he'll be a perjurer, a second charge and a career-ending felony if he is a lawyer.

It has to have been a Washington operation and while it may not be easy to get them out, there must be existing records. If there is any record reflecting any White House expression of any kind of interest in Presser's plight, no matter how indirectly, Reagan's luck may have run out.

But this is something I do not expect to be leaked. Very hard stuff, and very dangerous.

I hope the United States Attorney in Cleveland has political ambitions - and a good life policy.

Best wishes,