Jan 5 72

It would appear that we have headed them off at the pass.
The crisis appears to be over.

Yesterday, ~~Friday~~ Tuesday, I had delivered a copy of a letter mailed to Gerald Alch, [illegible] relieving Alch as my attorney. Yesterday afternoon Sirica called a [illegible] court for today for me, Alch, all of the defense attorneys, and the prosecuting attorneys to find out what my letter was all about. Concurrently, Alch was on the phone to me several times trying to patch matters up.

I had advised Alch orally that the reason for his dismissal was his pressing the defense issue on me, or trying to, of placing the blame for the operation on the company where it did not belong. I repeated that I would not stand for it, nor would I sit still for any other defense attorney trying to do it.

Alch met with me this morning and assured me the issue was dead, that he would not try it again, nor would anyone else. We met with the judge and the others and in a brief session answered his questions, without disclosing exactly what was at stake. He obviously knew something was up and is now alerted. We agreed ~~to explain things~~ advised him that we were going to give it a new try at working together. The press was there and were also alerted, but they have not yet dug up the reasons behind the whole thing.

Bittman was shook and has obviously taken the heat on this, because of my violent reaction. He should because he had transmitted to Alch the original idea. We know of course who passed the idea to Bittman.

We took them up to the brink on this, and I don't believe they will try it again. Breaking it to the press could have gotten some of them disbarred and broken the whole mess wide open.

Let's trust that this much of it is now behind us. Now we'll work on the other problems at hand. Keep the faith.

Paul F. Gaynor
4029 35th St North
Arlington, Virginia