

In your 1/10 you describe Hunt's appearance as carefree while he was being processed for release pending appeal. An ongoing deal is one explanation.

This reminds me of something I have not put on paper, the case of a man who has to defend himself and finally sees no choice to talking. But he will be pulling the plug on the most powerful. What course does he follow? How can he protect himself against his immediate problem, which is sure to anger and invite retaliation, and still protect himself against greater anger and greater determination to see that he gets his?

I see only one way. To pull the plug only part way.

Take what he said about Mitchell and WG. Take it as true. Why take it as complete? The WG job was exposed. He knew about others and he was and remains silent and this is not conjecture.

Or take his confession that he tried to get the CIA to bail and support, in which he involved others. Suppose these others were not directly involved and that the CIA was not directly involved, how could it run this risk? There is one way only, and it is so dangerous it could be done only with direct order: confessions by those involved. If the small fry were to confess and to proclaim patriotic motive, their own special kind, and if there were a direct order, then the top people could dare what they otherwise would not.

Now, if there were an innocent connection and they had lied about it to begin with, their situation would be more delicate, so these top people might be more inclined to consider it if they were leaned on to pull something not quite kosher. These were.

As a result, everyone who knew anything about it had a handle on those higher than they. This includes all those who talked but not fully.

You have seen one of my requests for the unpublished. The definitive answers were where I thought they would be, and I did get a response. I did not get the unpublished, but I did get an official paraphrase, with no covering letter. Promptly.

The linguist had his own solution and suggested it. The honeymooner was in on all of it. And all those of the same or higher rank were privy.

Wherefore and wherefrom everybody's like got very complicated. The lookers on as well as the doers.

Thus some wrists only have been slapped and that very lightly.

Earlier I had thought that Carefree's effort at blackmail had been predicated upon the dim past. I have no reason not to believe this still valid. That may even be all he knew he could prove. But it is not all that motivated acceptance. And I do not think and did not think that the one he was blackmailing is he who has just seen the light and felt the call so publicly, this acknowledged friend of the past. He was mere the one to whom the threat was made. And he knew it, too. Otherwise, he would not have reacted to it as he did, by trying to separate himself, by passing the buck. He would not have dared. Despite his own involvement in that in which he was involved. That much he could handle.