

Dear Larry. (# WG-Hunt)

12/10/72

Glad to hear from you last night. As I told you, after Ian McDonald (Times, London) phoned to tell me of the airing of the Mrs. Hunt story on WTTG-TV, DC (Metromedia) I got out a small transistor radio to monitor WBBM. There was no mention while I monitored, to your call and afterward, until I fell asleep, and during the night, about 5 a.m., when I listened briefly. But BBM did have stories on the arrival of the inspectors, the flight-recorder discovery, etc.

Because Ian and a local newsman and there wives had been here from lunchtime, I'd not listened to the radio or to the evening TV news, so if anything was reported, I didn't know. If Ian listened to his radio driving home, he apparently heard nothing of this. Taken with the story in today's early Post, I imagine that the two things came at different times, identification or announcement of the body and of the finding of the purse with the \$10,000 in \$100s, for the Post does not have the latter.

The day after the crash or the night of it WTOP TV, DC, read off a list of the names of the passengers. I recall no Hunt. I'd think it would have registered, but perhaps not. I am really wondering if she used her right name. If we still have the old papers, we'll check later today and see. I'm writing this before getting onto work I must complete before going to bed, needing it in the early a.m. when I have to go to Baltimore.

The Post has two p.3 stories, one APs from Chi, general, and a staffers on "7 From Area Victims of Jet Crash." In this there are two separate mentions, both buried, and giving her maiden name as Dorothy L. Wetzel (Dayton, Ohio). It also says Hunt went there, i.e. Cho., on Saturday to make funeral arrangements, so she had been identified before the story broke, and I'd guess some time before. It quotes daughter Kevan (right) Totterdale Hunt as saying her purpose was "to visit relatives in Chicago". More on this later.

All the reporting is odd, more than can be explained by weekend skeleton crews. Aside from the atypical BBM avoidance, early this a.m. I monitored all-news WAVA, which first had one brief story saying that only three from the area were in the crash, strange for Sunday reporting of a Friday crash, and later a short item saying her purse with the loot had been found, no more. Thereafter I monitored WTOP all-news radio for a long time during which there was no mention. When there was one I was not able to hear all of it, that is, interference made it incomprehensible. But it had a number of different items. The name of the man, one of the officials or an official searcher, who found the bag, the man who told the press of its contents (you'll remember I said to check the locals before the US DA, but don't ignore him because he has an obligation of which, if he says nothing, you might remind him, with Hunt under federal indictment and the money at issue), the name of a man I think was a survivor who was or spoke about a former ambassador to Uruguay with whom she was making a business deal, allegedly, and when the purse was found, with this one description of its contents.

Assuming the daughter is not following her father's career, why she she say the trip was social only to have an allegation of business purposes? And why do normal, not shady business with \$100 bills instead of a check? If business, monkey's.

Neither Mutual nor CBA net news carried any part of story.

I'll call Ian, who is working today, and see if he has learned anything.

United released the passenger list Friday, according to Sat's Times. My papers have no list. Michele Clark was identified by WBBM, not United, which listed Miss M. Clark only, also according to the Times. The possibility of use of an alias or maiden name, if remote, justified checking released list, as does business-deal allegations. I'd now like to see it. Especially with this rather long delay in identification as a grand-jury witness, as Mrs. H and some children were.

Ian says not on WPI Washington wire, which his office gets and he checked with them, they did not carry the list.

There is another point that, if it is or may be irrelevant, should not be overlooked. Very soon there is to be this thorough checking of what is carried onto airliners. That many \$100 bill would have attracted some attention. A possible inference is that there may have been a desire to avoid this later search. When registered mail is safe enough for gold shipments, etc., there would seem to be a reason for personal transportation of these bills, if not the need for Mrs. H's presence with them. This can be downgraded if it is assume that in common with many spooks and rightists, H is a bit paranoid. Thanks for calling,

Please return. I don't know how normal it is for a spouse's attorney to attend a funeral, but I think it is not normal for only eight cars in the procession. I think this betokens not fear of government or retaliation but a gut understanding of close friends and relatives of guilty in a very dirty business. Colz said she was insured for \$250,000 and that on the entire flight, insurance was but \$400,000. Or. more than half on one passenger. H

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