

Before getting into this morning's work I'm trying to get news on N.O. developments of yesterday. So far with poor results. Couldn't get WWL last night or this a.m. Most of what I could get, best from Westinghouse, adds up to there was a conspiracy and Gaudet was not part of it. What is weird is that Gaudet was not under observation with his record, esp. when he committed a violent act against Nixon. N.O. is the kind of place all of this could have been for real, but the situation is one in which GL needs the sympathy such publicity is bound to get him...There never was any left in N.O. At least I could never find any. Maybe there was an occasional Cuban who was pro-Castro, but I also never found one. The closest thing was a detached guy who had gone to fight with the Spanish loyalists...WBBM says Mrs. Liddy has a piece in the current Ladies Home Journal... well, the only interest this former anti-fascist had at 70 was in a married woman who let him in her bed once in a while. He knew of no left activists in the entire area...N.O. is so far right it is hard to believe. All those things usually with dissolute left kids are of the right there...Somehow it is hard to believe that two Secret Service agents could "capture", the word of one Westinghouse newscast, this suspect Gaudet and then loose him in the mountains at Taos and then to reconcile this with what Clarence Giarrusso said, that Gaudet was not part of the plot...And all of this also coincides with the opening of the Garrison trial? Only in N.O.... Caught GL on radio news while taking a pre-supper dip in the pool and wasn't sure that my impression of euphoria was correct So made it a point to catch CBS TV news, and he was, even forcing his voice past the point where he really needed to draw a breath. Odd. I wouldn't think the reaction to his speech would make him euphoric, nor would I think that knowing he is getting away with it would. Perhaps knowing the kind of audience he picked for his appearance made him feel like a kid ~~with~~ who'd gotten away with the cookie jar... Recent stuff on new investigation Secret Service: keep eye on Tom Kelley. His office had no JFK picture in it but a number of others, including GL's, jr and sr...Spoke to Dick Harwood yesterday. Seems like the Tom Bethell they have on the JG trial is JG's, not the one from Appalachian News (of the past). They appear not to have had any special interest in this threat or he'd have been back in touch. I told him I'd be glad to tell him if I knew on any of those named. What I then had in mind is that if this were a real threat it would more likely come from two of the kinds of right nuts, Cubans angry over what happened to their WH heroes or those who think he sold out to the reds...With reception bad I'm monitoring CBS radio, New York, and their headline is pollution at New Jersey beaches! It appears from this radio treatment that the threat is not really being taken as a serious one...Read some of Ramparts last night. Good issue. Thanks. Good VVAW, Nizer pieces. I once

lost my cool with Nizer, who is a man impossible to describe in terms of human normality. At the end of four hours that I have somewhere on tape I wound up, on autopilot, not in conscious thought, by telling him to his face and on the air, "One twist of that forked tongue and instat evidence." It was as true as it is spontaneous...If Lesar is still getting N.O. papers and sends me anything on these new developments, if there is anything in them, I'll copy and send. HW 8/21/73