

4 June 1973

Dear Harold:

Your mailings through June 1 are here, and the enclosed may help to clear up at least some of the questions you raise.

First of all I want to thank you for the Martin affidavit. No hurry, but when you have time can you say how he happened to make it (as far as you know, that is) (I know he says he felt Hoffa had been railroaded and wanted to explain how he felt forced to take part in it), who the attorney is to whom he made the statement, and anything else you recall offhand that may be relevant. Such as how widely known is the existence of this affidavit? No hurry, as I said.

We like your prologue title, by the way: The Past IS Prologue.

Another word about the timer. Sorry if we unintentionally made you feel that you can't ~~inquire~~ inquire about something without it being taken as a hint. I should have thought of that and made it plainer than I did that we frankly had no use for the one we sent you due to our own carelessness in buying it when we did. Our old one is working just as well as it ever did, and if and when we replace it will have to get pretty much the same thing because of our peculiar space and furniture situation. In other words, after we got home with the one we later sent you we found it was workable, yes, but suitable, no, and were glad indeed when it seemed you might be able to use it. As I said, it cost very little, and if we make no mistakes more expensive than that we shall feel very lucky. We would have unloaded it on Somebody, and you just happened to come along at the right moment. We certainly did not consider your inquiry a hint in any sense. It was just that we were feeling somewhat silly, timerwise, because of the mistake we had made, we had a timer which had been declared surplus, you might possibly use it, so we acted upon impulse. Is this such a big deal? Do we have to resign? We shall fight impeachment, I warn you.

The hearings resume tomorrow, and we are all but caught up in time to fall far behind again. Because of the way the papers come in (we got the NYTimes for 22 and 29 May today) we work in so many time sectors that between us we probably have achieved a degree of confusion hitherto unmatched in the human experience. The STM says she has come to realize that the letters stand for Sieve Type Mind. What she doesn't realize is that it was I who invented this species of mentality years ago.

Regarding Alch's second day of testimony you did not hear, we listened to it with particular care and could detect nothing different from his first day; he's extremely slick and as you point out is expert at saying what is irrelevant and not saying what would be relevant. However, we still have it on tape, and if you want it will dub it on to cassettes for you.

Speaking of Cassettes, we still have six of yours we've not had time to audit. Three are on Farewell America. One on Colson at the Press Club, One on a Mrs. Drury, and the last on a press forum you want returned. If you need any of them any time soon please say so.

Best,


jdw