

Dear Jim,

10/31/73

Because some legal conferences in which he wanted to participate conflicted, Lesar did not come yesterday. This gave me the time to complete the reading and correcting of the next part of the book, 105 pages of this size type and full pages! Of course it is a separate book, ~~writ~~ written in the hope it can be a part of a large book and with the possibility of separate use as a book if nothing can be done with the monster.

However, the changed schedule means I can't do other things today, will have to be available for Lesar, so I slept late - until 5 a.m. - and before working in a few Segretti pages written earlier, I have time for a note on the newest incredibility of the ineffable Cox.

Before that, in case you are interested, what I have done with three parts now drafted and the first being retyped when poor Lil can get a few minutes, is to take the Nixon police-state plan and work much in while analyzing it, including the Warren treatment the Ervins gave it, documented I think thoroughly enough and as much as possible with what is withheld; followed that with a part on the White House's obstruction of justice with regard to the crimes rather than in opposing exposure of them (that will be later, in Counterattack, which I also started long ago); and this one is, "This Is Your FBI", By. L. Patrick Gray." I use what got slight attention, those pages I sent you, to show the deliberateness of the obstruction of justice by Gray and other things to show this is why Nixon put him there and kept him there. In the course of this I've worked in several other stories and will ignore them otherwise as relatively minor except as they impinge on other stories (as Segretti and Wallace).

I began to hear the yesterday story during the hours before 3 a.m., on the pillow speaker each time I rouse. (I fall back to sleep fast) so I hear only snatches). The Times story got a heavy Westinghouse play and was already being answered by the White House! I believe it is a significant factor that the WH was in a position to respond to an a.m.'s scoop before the a.m. It causes part of my thinking.

I heard little news yesterday, some on a morning walk, where the signal does not disappear in the mountains, some at supper, TV, and one CBS radio in the afternoon. In all, however, my feeling remained unchanged. Then when I heard Cox and quotes attributed to Kennedy, my feeling became more fixed.

I think the WH arranged that leak and for just the purpose for which he has been using it. The content, as best I can tell long before the Post gets here and without having seen the Times, really adds nothing to what was available. I have some of the to-now suppressed ITT memos. I wrote a snatch about them long ago. That Nixon put pressure on is not at all new. All that is new in what I know of is the gutter language to Kleindienst. The fact is that even Agnew was involved, and all the top WH staff. All quote GL. So, the exposure costs GL nothing at all. This means it is the safest kind for him, especially because he was able to present it his own way, to claim that this is not exception but is part of his regular duties; and he was sweet reasonableness, changing when he learned more. I heard no body ask how the hell can a rational President act with such force on what he admits is completely inadequate evidence, why he did not learn this "more" first. So, he always gets away with it and because nobody fights him hard - I'm still looking for signs of a fight rather than a defense against him - he can expect in advance to get away with it.

I hear nothing at all from Howard, who is deep in taxing school work (1000 pp of extra reading a week) so I won't get this Times story. Unless there are details you regard as important not in the Post story when you get both, don't bother to copy for me. The details on ITT are not essential unless they prove the above wrong. What interests me is the use/misuse. Of course, if there are indications that the leak really was because of Cox, that would interest much.

There is to be an "Open The Archives" demonstration 11/23 with, according to Paul Valentine, who is disposed to ignore it (I hope he does) Mark, Freed, Skolnick, Mae B. and Caharach, as I recall. As I told Paul, just the right ones to promote two books and two movies and to misdirect attention from the other side of the street, where the DJ and the FBI are housed. I broke up Mark's earlier misuse of this in late 1966, when I was on the phone, he in studio, and I said picket Hoover and I'm with you. Best,