

23 November 1974

Dear Harold:

We have been having a merry time around here, with light rains every three or four days, at which time it is necessary to do two things: 1, spot all the leaks and put pans and buckets underneath, and 2, go up on the roof again and try to locate the spots where the pools are forming and somehow getting through or around the edges of the plastic cover which was hastily layered on the roof after the first rain and which is somewhat uneven because of all the holes that had to be cut and taped around vent pipes and other things that had to be accommodated. During the last go-round I think I got most or all of the leaks taken care of, but we won't know until the next time. Meanwhile the roofer claims he may be able to do our job, weather permitting, late this week or early next, but in any case there's nothing further we can do. Fortunately most of the leaks are concentrated in our work room, not all over the house.

I rescued the cover for your letter from Memphis and enclose it in case it may suggest some clue to you. The slit at the top is where I opened it. On the back you'll notice a faint red tinge around part of the flap. I don't understand it, but it might be due to someone resealing without washing red ink off their hands first. Also there are two cryptic little stamped imprints at the apex of the flap, X5 and W3. The other interesting thing is the number 380 on the frank where the zip code should be. According to our very old zip code directory Memphis zip numbers begin with 381, not 380. One of us called the local post office and asked for zip code information, and the man was either totally stumped or acting very convincingly when he said 380 meant nothing to him and that he couldn't begin to locate 380 unless he had two more digits. I don't believe this. The first three numbers obviously denote an area of some kind, whereas the last two are for the station within that area.

We await our copy of WWIV and of course are much pleased to be among those to whom you have sent it. When it comes and I'm able to include something for the postage I'll send you a check, which should enable you to send a copy to someone else who should have one. This is the least we can do. Also after it comes and I can get an idea of its size and general appearance, I have in mind a couple of paperback emporia who ought to have a look at it. Unless you instruct to the contrary, I'll tell them to order from your direct if they're interested. Other ideas may come to mind later. With Eason you've about covered the local talkshow waterfront, except for Eason's morning counterpart, Owen Spann, also on KGO. KGO has a couple of others, useless. I know of no others, but will pass along any suggestions that occur to either of us.

The NYTimes for Nov. 14 has a story on the Watergate coverup trial by Lesley Oelsner (the best legal reporter on the job) which has an interesting bit from Ulasewicz' testimony about the Hunts. I've not copied it, as this part is brief, and I think I can summarize it adequately and provide you with the reference in case you need it later. Tony says that on July 30, 1972, Dorothy Hunt, in asking for more money for Mrs. Liddy, told him that Mrs. Liddy might be on the verge of a nervous breakdown. She asked Tony if he could recommend a psychiatrist and said "if she goes, she might blow everything."
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Ben Veniste asked Tony what this meant, and Tony answered that it would mean Mrs. Liddy might tell everything she knew about the Watergate situation.

Ben Veniste later asked Fred Larue if he had discussed this possibility with Kalmbach, and Larue replied that he had and that the thrust of the discussion was that if this wasn't tended to Mrs. Liddy might divulge everything she knew." Only the day before Kalmbach ~~was~~ had testified that he did not realize the money-dispensing scheme, and that his role in it might be illegal until mid-August that year.

Apparently Ben Veniste did not pursue with Ulasewicz whether he had supplied the names of any psychiatrists to Mrs. Hunt. (Ms. Oeslner is not one to neglect a fine point like this -- she's a rip-roaring STM in her own right and her stories are so much better than those of anyone else covering this trail that the contrast is pitiful.)

However the fact that Dorothy was inquiring about shrinks for Mrs. Liddy does suggest a possible accounting for the names of those two ~~shrinks~~ which were found in her effects after the plane crash.

The references to these two are in Maxine Cheshire pieces in the Post on Oct. 2 and 9, 1973. In the last of these two pieces Hunt himself gives Cheshire an explanation for the presence of the two names which sounded plausible enough at the time -- Dorothy had disc trouble and had got the names of one doc, a neurologist named Korengold, after surgery had failed to help her, and of a Dr. Gary Morris, a shrink who used hypnosis. She had been thrown from a horse and after several months pain ~~was~~ had obtained the names in February, 1972. Morris disappeared in March that same year, vanishing with his wife on a boat outing in the Caribbean. Hunt apparently told Cheshire that Mrs. Hunt presumably did not know about Morris' disappearance, as she still had the names with her when the plane crashed in December later that year. In the meantime a new set of exercizes had relieved her pain, and she may have been carrying the names with her in case she ever fell off another horse, Hunt said through his literary agent, Donald MacCampbell, being in jail at the time and therefore unreachable by the press directly. The local STM has worked this over and finds it wanting, in view of the likelihood that Hunt didn't want Mrs. Liddy's wavering known and therefore may have done some fast improvising to avoid mentioning her. Anyway, those are the references in case you ever need them.

I did not fill you in on the note I sent Finley about Peking Man because it has only the most remote bearing on anything you're working on, and you're busy enough. However there is sudden activity where there has been none, with the WX Post reprinting in excerpts on Nov. 10, in a Sunday feature section, an article from Harvard Magazine (date not given) by one Janet Cox (new name, possibly de plume). It's routine except for two things: The part about Janus and his search is worked around so that it has the Chinese approaching HIM for help in finding THEIR national treasure, even telling him he has a contract. The other new element is surprisingly extended speculation over the possibility that the relics may have been somewhere in this country all along. The speculation, which barely has been mentioned before, is sooffing as one would expect, but never has it received so much attention. It may mean nothing, but Henry carries less clout these days and may need something like this.