

3/30/73

Mr. Clark Mollenhoff
Des Moines Register
Room 952
National Press Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Clark,

Herewith Dean's letter to me and my unanswered response to him. Although you know more about and have more interest in the Freedom of Information law than most reporters, I think a little explanation may be necessary.

Until the moment of Ken Clawson's deliberate deception I had to be patient because under most circumstances what I wanted is immune under the law and should be. However, once he made use of it, he waived all rights under the exemption. My purpose was more than proving deliberate deception. It is that as of the time of the crime and for the period after March 29, Hunt was employed by the White House and was paid. This is a bit firmer than the indefiniteness of his having had a desk there. It is not, as TIME said, that he worked for the CREEPS then. He was on the White House payroll at \$100 per day.

Now, what I think is worse than most of what has come out, for those days on which he was not paid by the White House - and assuming he was not on both teats at the same time - he was paid by other taxpayers money, through the Mullen agency, working on a pretty certainly spurious government contract. He was, again while paid with taxpayers' money, also working with Bennett on setting up those about 40 fronts for the CREEP operations of hiding income. This government contract was paid from HEW funds. It was to get the President's daughter (in the middle of a campaign yet!) on TV with alleged Public Service Announcements. For that one has to pay? But Bennett's account is that without this contract the business would have folded and without Hunt it would have been impossible. Thus, and again after public use only, I asked for the agency's government contracts.

Mullen got another HEW contract, non-competitively, after the arrests. Edith Green made an inquiry and dropped it. She said she would write me later but she didn't.

Mullen worked for the CIA while Hunt worked for it, including in the same Cuban area. Naturally, that of Barker et al. Thereafter, and while he was still with CIA as well as to long after Mullen allegedly fired him, Hunt used their secret address for mail and got phone service at least with them. Hunt claims to have been vice president and director, not just a hired pen.

From Dean's letter to me, I think Gray is not quite the innocent victim he has made himself out to be. He knew Hunt was working for the White House. Access to the desk was not for establishing this but to get the evidence it held.

It is my belief that just as the CREEPS went out and got money they didn't ~~make~~ and cut corners needlessly, running that childish risk, public money was used in this thing that to me is the deepest subversion. I hope you can follow these contracts, for they can provide proof. Keep up the good work and

require
best wishes,