

23 June 1972

Dear Harold:

Attached is what we have to date on Demo bugging. We include some NY Times Service material, since it often contains material eliminated in the Times' own version, believe it or not. I have been able to get no AP copy on this matter, largely because of intense working pressure, and also because I was off the two days when the story first broke, and by the time I got there the copy had been thrown away, routinely.

I rearley get to see the LA Times. It comes to the office, but for various reasons unnecessary to go into here I have little opportunity to read it and less to clip.

You obviously are very much on top of this, so I doubt if the enclosed (or anything else we could have picked up here had we been able) will provide more than a crumb or two of information that is useful to you. Thanks very much for providing the aliases and other material which has come in with your mailings up through June 21.

For comparison purposes, here is the way this thing impressed us as it developed: The Cuban element was apparent very early, so we went through our skimpy files and did what we could to match names etc. Not much, of course. Then a local private eye, a rather famous one named Harold Lipset, commented scathingly on the radio (commercial) on the amateurish and outdated tactics and techniques used by the five men arrested. Unfortunately we did not tape this, but he said the same things others did in Washington Post stories.

We could not imagine either the GOP or the Committee to Reelect the President knowingly hiring such a crew to do such a job when they easily could afford the best and know well the necessity of doing just that. Nor, assuming the Democrats conceivably could have staged it to make the Republicans look bad, could we imagine them dealing with the same ham-handed outfit. While not as able as the GOP to afford better, they must know better, and anyone scheming that far ahead would have to provide for discovery and a way out.

Therefore, it seemed that the job had to be that of someone essentially outside either party's policy-making level, and there the CIA and Cuban connections began to suggest possibilities. I don't mean that the CIA would back such a disastrous venture, but that the CIA background of those involved, being apparently in the past, suggested that they might have figured on doing their thing and then selling the results to anyone interested. Being veterans of the Bay of Pigs, the results appear consistent with history.

Some, at least of this appears consistent with the ideas you have advanced thus far, and we are particularly intrigued with the Rebozo angle, not having heard previously of either a Cuban Republican committee or Cuban-Americans for Nixon-Agnew. In this connection you will note the AP dispatch carried by the SF Chronicle of June 20 to the effect that our GL lost no time repairing to the bosom of his confidante. We frankly had neglected the Cuban aspect of El Bosom, which goes far to explain his interest in and undying and unselfish friendship for aforementioned GL. Very reminiscent of the Friendship of the late Syngman Rhee and of Chiang Kai-shek for Sen. Knowland et al.

We'll continue to watch and forward anything you conceivably could have missed.

jdw