

Dear Jim,

Odds and ends as I try to catch up again:

Your 7/29: thanks on Scott. He has sent nothing and at this point, if he has any self-respect, won't on checking his reference. It says nothing at all like what he told me. It does not say that he or his law firm represented the CDM, only that he wrote a letter out of humanitarian motive.

Fielding apartment break-in: only such report the one you cite, Sunday Exam 7/15. Seems more likely only a stakeout to be sure they don't get caught.

7/29 Butterfiled: Agreed. Now at this to it: Butterfield was phoned the afternoon of 6/17/72 by the FBI as soon as they came across Hunt's name. My source is the Gray confirmation hearings, a copy of which I got today. Mathias had promised it. I started thumbing through it. (Gray invented amnesia.) If Butterfield was such a nobody, why would the FBI's WFO office phone him at the WH? For Butterfield to be able to make any kind of response means, among other things, that the Ervin committee laid another egg. Or that everyone in the WH knew what he and the plumbers were doing. They seem to have had no interest. And never to read the newspapers, either. Guess I'll have to find more time for the Graying of Patrick.

Chron 7/26: thanks for the background on Bennett. He now has more company, an irate, not-liberal Texan and his House committee. It has issued subpoenas for all government records. Pretty much of this should out now.

WxPost 7/18, Alfred Cox death: I had missed this and I do think it is the name Mrs. Drury mentioned and the credentials could not fit more perfectly. Her husband was, she said, assigned to the same areas and in the same lines, counter-insurgency, etc. Glad to have some confirmation.

Szulc 6/23/72, NYTimes: I've started a Szulc file with this. As I go over a box of early stories on the arrest and the suspects, I'll get the others I have together and go over them chronologically. This is one of the first diversions. Internal evidence indicates federal if not FBI sources used (Miami bank search and he in DC and it happened that very day, 6/22). Potomac excerpt: I'd forgotten that ~~the Barker money connection thru~~ ~~xxBennett~~ Caddy had leaked intimations of Bennett's CIA work. Makes Caddy more interesting. Interprogress makes a natural link to was it Dhalberg who also tried for USSR trade. How odd that Mullen regards his "employee" as one who "misused our hospitality." This should be an interesting angle to pursue, but I'll not be able to do much more than I have. One of Bennett's depositions was a little helpful in tracing Hunt's movements after the breaking, and knowing what he finally decided before coming back. He was interviewed by the FBI afternoon 6/17 at his home, so he didn't go far away right away. He then went to New York on a dodge that avoided any criminal charges. If the FBI had him that soon and got nothing (source, L. Pat), they weren't trying hard because their legal basis for entering the case was a bombing suspicion, something I've not seen in the papers. Gray doesn't give the name, but they caught the Cubans with one of the ARI smoke detectors fixed up as a bug and didn't until taking it apart learn it was a bug, when the charge was changed ~~it~~ to interception of ~~messages~~ communications (IOC)...If I didn't tell you or you didn't know, that Radio Free Cuba deal was a subsidiary of the Arensberg Free Cuba Committee, which was CIA. It is probable that Hunt knew the Arensberg's in Cuba, where the husband had a business. I've wondered if they are characters in Give Us This Day. Were it not for the other evidence I have, I'd take this to be enough to connect Hunt and Bennett/Mullen way back. I assume that this agency continued in work for The Agency and I assume that some of the contracts were for this purpose and that Hunt/GL cut in on some. I still can't figure Helms' mien before the committee. What did interest me is that the two who had been close to Nixon, despite the way in which they said it, spilled some good leads on him the papers didn't catch, which now is something less than an acute disappointment to me!...Nor can I explain Elizabeth Green's silence in any way other than a whispered word. Remember, she had made demands about the non-competitive contract and then lost all interest in it, never wrote me further? Out of time, too. Thanks and best,

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4 Aug ?  
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