

Don't be misled by absence of Post 3/24/73. It is being held for me. I'll pick it up in a.m. after I got to post office. They are also holding Times, so if this reaches you in time, don't copy WG stys from it. I expect a visitor shortly. He passes within two blocks of post office on his way home. If he is going home from here, I'll ask him to mail this and other letters of which carbons are enclosed. Couldn't get into town last night.

Even though I had earlier done some conjecturing along this line, the actual story caught me by surprise. There is nothing not logical in it and it apparently comes from an inside source. I had noted the quoted McCord language and wondered if he was just being stilted, in part, and whether the fact was hearsay only. I suppose that with him and the Cubans it has to be or insanity if more rampant than even I suspected. This judge may well go for hearsay now and there are ways in which he can, like chiding the prosecution, etc.

You will recall my earlier conjecturing on who really was Rothblatt's client. He and Alch (Bailey) have had the most overt pro-CIA cases in recent years. Bittman's firm has done more straight work for it. All the parts itemized here fit. What I do not see is that Rothblatt still has the Cubans for clients. Ambulance chasing? I have no doubt there was an understanding, if not a deal. But Sirica kicked over the traces. (Could he be put out at not having gotten a Supreme Court appointment?) Perhaps as he nears his end he is also a bit disgusted, as he should be at himself. Maybe he read out spectro brief on appeal and realized Justice used him? Anyway, he made the deal inoperative. There is error here where it says he has to approve post-conviction proceedings. Wrong. Only first step. All sorts of later moves are available. With Ray we are using habeas corpus. We also allege pressure, and Rothblatt can make out such a case with no trouble. This is going to get a lot more interesting now! There is previous indication that Hunt went to work on them. Now that Helms is gone, I wonder at the CIA's role and interest, that is, what form it will take, whether it will continue to shelter its own, etc. One of the probabilities is that Mr. Martha Mitchell will be named as one with knowledge. This kind of caper would never be undertaken without the approval of the top. It would be suicidal for those in the operation. Therefore, some have to know. On this I think Sirica would take hearsay about what Hunt said and could lean on Hunt, from whom it would not be hearsay. In my initial reading of McCord's letter I was too attracted by some of what I addressed and lost sight of the fact that while in practice with the FBI and CIA his was a special kind of spookery, he did have basic FBI training and that includes the elements of preparing evidence for a case to go to trial, so when he talks about the "structure, orientation and impact" it need not be and I think is not an idle threat. I wondered in reading, esp. where he refers to the Constitution if he had had the benefit of counsel. Read that part with care if you have not. You'll get the full text with yesterday's Post. (I noted Lipsett's selection in Caen, and I do not think he is the right kind of chief investigator, unless they are depending on Dash for the analysis. He is expert in the electronic techniques, but I think that the least important part of the Senate probe.) One new concern is the over-reaction of the top guilty, including GL, who I've always considered knew if he didn't devise. I've not read or looked at the rest of the paper. I saw this bringing it back to the house and stopped to be able to send if possible a day earlier than would otherwise happen. HW 3/25/73

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