

Dear Jim,

9/26/73

Hated to lose the trend of what I was writing to hear/see/read Hunt and learned little from the intent of the committee and papers but a fair amount despite all. Hope you can read the few notes in the margin of my letter to Lesar. I didn't want to explain all of it to him in writing for various reasons, none mistrust...The enormity of the fix grows daily.

Buchanan was a waste of time. They'll never learn how to handle Nixon/dirties.

I've a note in the next letter to Lesar in case I forgot to ask him about CQ index.

No sweat copying Newsweek review Hunt's novel.

Your comment on Nixon fighting when there is no need, agreed. I have collected a fat file labelled Psychological and may attempt to do a chapter. I think that of all the complicating factors that can blend here the basic one is his secret knowledge that he is a nothing, which drives him to demonstrate to himself that he is, too, so there. It is not that he isn't cunning, smart, etc. But he can't do good things. There are none in his entire record, not even social graces.

I've gotten so forgetful I'd forgotten I send the unread draft of the stuff on LEAA. As I think I said, I am doing three books in one and one is on Nixon, one on authoritarianism.

Ed Williams has read Leigh James and says what I think you did earlier, that it is better than the Hunt stuff he has seen, so he thinks it is not Hunt. Don't waste time. We know enough along that line. The Mullen stuff looks even better. Did you notice that both the Times and the Post edited out what by any standard is a good story, Hunt's statement that CIA is in domestic intelligence and that no new law is needed, it is already illegal? They had an ex. session on it noontime, with him, from a TV comment before the p.m. session began.

Yeah, I know what smoothing concrete is, and a ditach must be worse, with no forms and a natural tendency to follow natural law...When I was building an addition onto my henhouse, which was right along the road, I did some favors to the contractor on a bridge job on an interstate highway being build a third of a mile away. They had to have too much very often to be sure they had enough concrete, and they paid for what they had left over. So, they'd send it down to me. Well, I made a chute with some sycamore boards for the truck chute to fit into and then, all alone and often at night, I'd have it to work out. After a backbreaking first night, I made myself a wooden float with a strong handle and when I got large batches I worked it out that way. I got enough that way to do a floor 25x65. Some places concrete more than a foot deep when it came before I could fill and pack. I had boards to use for emergency forms for I never knew when I'd get what. I used to love to do that kind of work, even when my back complained. I loved to lay flagstones, brick steps, etc. I could see what Churchill found in it, but nobody mixed the mud for me!

Lil has gotten over her upset. Now that the hearings are over, maybe we can get more done between now and Tuesday.

Best,

Unless Jim caught the rerun last night, & with the work he had to do I doubt he took the time, or unless the papers caught & carry it, if you didn't spot what I wrote about last night in Hunt's display of aggressiveness on mention of CIA domestic intelligence I'll have to await the printing of the hearings. I did take a nap, but after 30 minutes, Lil could not get me up, so I slept thru that part and then saw the rest of what I'd missed and got nothing from it. I have dual interests, one having to do with the past of Whitewash. Don't trouble yourself if you did not note this. ...After 2 days of this character, I have to agree that Szulc titled his book perfectly.

HW 9/26/73

To amplify my notes on my letter to Lesar of last night if you compare the conclusions of ExPost's 9/25 story the Hughes-plumbers plots vs. Greenspun with the testimony Hunt gave the day before and not reporter in the Post or Times, you'll see part of what both papers and the committee did nothing about. If you remember what I think I sent in a very rough and hasty draft still not read on the Greenspun attempted heist, you'll also see what the committee could have laid out, from public sources, and I doubt the telecasts would have been cancelled. HW 9/27/73 early a.m.-long before papers arrive

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