

6 January 1975

Dear Harold:

This replies to your mailings of Dec. 26 and jJan. 4. We'll watch especially carefully for anything in the Times or elsewhere which you don't see in the Post regarding the material you mention. Since you say you're covered through Dec. 30 for the Times, I'm beginning with the 31st (enclosed, along with two or three other small items from other sources) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~.


We'll pass the Sgt. Shraga dub, thanks, unless you find something extraordinary in it.

We very much agree with your diagnosis of the Hersch series as the result of an extremely elaborate and carefully orchestrated leaking expedition. What we haven't been able to figure out clearly yet is just who is after whom; is this only an internal squabble ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ among factions or is it something bigger? Know you may not be able to comment, but that's the big question in our minds. Certainly there's little new in it. On this general subject, I'll have to say that there are several unanswered questions about your and Jim's visit to ~~Max~~ Warner which I don't even want to ask about. Probably it all will become clear as things progress. On the whole we tend to assume that in general you were doing what you usually do, playing it in the open so there can be no repercussions later about having failed to do so.

On another matter, I find your exchange of Dec. 27 and Jan. 2 with the chicken further reinforcement of my impression that he is, in his mind, building some kind of a record. It's difficult to comment at this distance and on the basis of my fragmentary knowledge, but I have to say this trend seems to me to be dangerous and worth reconsidering carefully. Objectively the matter has reached the stage where both of you are accusing the other of being mentally ill. Regardless of the actual facts, I urge you to consider three things: how this state of affairs can be made to look, especially by one with the resources and entree he has, and what its eventual end can mean to all concerned. I trust you do nothing about this matter without fullest understanding with Lesar. This is not criticism; merely an effort to reflect something of another perspective. I don't know enough to criticise.

That's about all for now I want to wrap this up so it can go out with tomorrow's mailman.

Best from us both,



jdw