

MAR 29 1976

Dear Jim,

3/27/76

Hasty pre-supper thanks for your 3/24 and enclosures. As you'll see, the UPI story on the CIA's declassification is quite helpful. It is the only enclosure read to now.

The Playboy breach of contract idea seems pretty good to me. I've put a note in the next mailing to Lesar asking that question. It is entirely a verbal agreement on which they have paid me by check that includes a payment for the earlier plagiarism. As I believe I've let you know, I finally heard from one of their house counsel who is to call me again after checking, which can't very well be until perhaps Monday evening or Tuesday.

Your amplification of the Bandung crashes is helpful if I can help the friend. Now that you mention it while I knew none of the reporters I was aware of that crash. It was well reported. I was in NYC too briefly Thursday to call on this.

Only if I have to be away will Lil go over the paper until after 4/16. However, she knows of and understands the Butterfield interest.

Nothing new except in slight FOIA suits encouragements. Lesar and I both believe that the leak to the Post of an impending King assassination investigation is from our pressures. I think it represents an effort to keep control.

I've been gradually easing into outside work that requires no use of sharp tools. Started making new flowerbeds around new wellpit, which needed backfilling anyway. Today I put in a short flagstone walk, bedding it in sand so I can get to the beds without over-reaching or walking on the flowers. (We do eat some.)

It was necessary to bring up some locust posts to make borders and they were nasty from rain and long laying in same spot. Solution simple: drag on pair of wheels on axle. As I went down for them my neighbor informed me of the storm alert I can now see in the sky and feel in the greatly lowered air pressure. We sure are having the craziest weather.

I've lost all the trees I want to and more. Still have perhaps a half-dozen to get out of the way before mowing weather which, with the unseasonal highs, can be almost any day now.

If I carbon you on the letter to Ray Black it is because the unnamed man whose name I seek knew of the King assassination in advance and became a drunk over it. He also quit the labor movement, which coincides with my first suspicion about who did it...I'm working on this with Les, who will be here tomorrow with his wife and kid.

As you have probably realized from some of the Ray carbons, I expect some developments in that area.

We have a problem in the King evidence - the burden on the judge of preserving what is still around to be secured. She was terribly overloaded in the Rosenberg case. This is one of the problems I'll have to be addressing factually in the affidavit I'm drafting. Jim will do it legally. We will be wanting a meaningful inventory filed with the court.

The reports Lesar receives from New York have it that the re-issued Meagher book is doing well but the Hoch et al ~~xxx~~ anthology is not. It may be too soon for a reading on that anthology. However, I think it does not deserve to do well. I've not heard a good comment yet.

Best,

