

1/11/71

Dear Js,

I didn't trouble you with my latest and unfortunately necessary blast at Pual who parlays ~~malony~~ into incredible if unintended stupidity upon which no lemming could improve. I presume he has not liked it, but he has also been silent, with sufficient time for violent reaction. It has to do with attracting everyone's attention not only to the declassification but ~~to~~ the easy availability thereof, knowing the first stuff he saw should never have been declassified (and, therefore, suggesting entrapment easy to conceive) and therefore, piously, hoping, simultaneously, that it will not fall into the wrong hands. I think there is no such he didn't address or who is not in touch with those he did. With such friends....

Meanwhile, we have arranged at least on this end a much better ~~a~~ condition and a quadruplicate depot of each paper. There are probably several thousand. Those I have already, and with a hunch this is twice as much as they told me they had declassified and sent on Ferrie, are both quite significant and potentially very dangerous, if misused. Moreover, the hasty use by the uninformed seeking immediate sensation can well close off what remain as very promising leads and future investigations. With all of this is the real possibility that doing what the sensation-seekers, nuts, etc do can be thrown at everyone, including me, in court, and with seeming reasonableness and effect. Our problems should be filed under "Medusa".

I got John Christian's address, wrote him about what remains of the 5,000 copies of OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS he got, and have his typically evasive letter addressing everything but that which I asked of him, their return by truck with the cost charged to the publisher, whose authorizing letter I sent John. So, before these can disappear forever, if they haven't already, I hope there may be some way of effecting this. If Hal is not yet too busy with the tax season, maybe he can or can get it done. They are in the basement where he lived on Pacific Ave. His L.A. address is 840 N. Larrabee.

I have not yet heard from Hal.

Otherwise, the only thing really new is that with the thawing I was able to take a good walk today, and it was great. Hope you both had a very good holiday and have a fine year ahead.

Sincerely,

