

OCT 6 1971

10/5- Just saw something on a.m. TV news that reminds me I misunderstood a reference you made some time back, confusing the two Army cases of Herbert and Henderson. We are about to leave for DC, and while I await Lil's getting ready, first, I want to let you know my response was a Herbert response and that it was about him and his case that the TV coverage was excellent here. It also reminds me of an incident from my military career that might amuse you, of a time when the Army wasn't always as it always seems to be now. I had been assigned to OSS. I was a buck private. And I was assigned the job of writing the secret history of OSS and there were to be but a dozencopies in all made. I decided on a journalistic approach, to handle it as I would have done an in-depth picture-magazine piece, using pictures to the degree possible. This, ultimately, required my going to one of the secret training areas, and I picked one near the Quantico base. It happened that my immediate superior, a sergeant I'd worked for when he was a magazine editor, was not until then taking his basic training. So, as a joke, I had a baker make a cake with a hacksaw in it. My driver was a 1st louis, my photog a civilian and I, a private, was in charge. That was Donovan, that OSS. I got to the camp and found the commander so @I I was never where I had to be, assigned to the enlisted-men's mess, where there was nothing but chitchat for me, to the same kind of barracks, almost totally removed from the officers to whom I required access and made to wait when I went to see the commander. The next a.m. I returned to DC, reported what happened, and within 48 hours the camp not only had a new commander but that one, an excellent soldier in the traditional sense but not for that job, was already on a boat. And here is s p.s. I got a medical discharge when my work was in rough draft, with a dummy of the final work. I next saw it as the movie O.S.S. starring Jimmie Cagney! Most of the men in that part were from Hollywood, but the guy who stole and sold the work is, I think, not one of them. HW