

AUG 11 1972

8/8/72

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Dear Js,

Hope this isn't too disjointed. I've moved the mill to near the TV because CBS' TV a.m. news is to include an interview I was to see, with the guy who has done the expose on the CIA and SEAsia narcotics. My immediate purpose is another Hal message. It is a futility for me to write him and if Je can find time to call him, she can get a reading not answering letters denies me. He long ago had an interest in an aspect hinging on one Arnold Lewis Kessler. Bud and Jim have gotten several different prints of the guy in Odum Ex. 1 (CE237). I have asked that they make a couple of prints for Hal to study. The document I couldn't get him when he wanted it has been declassified. PH has it or I can copy for him. With the interview he conducted, he may be able to see in these pix what others can't. These are different pictures, taken at different times than that printed. The guy is dressed differently. They have been exposed differently, over-exposure deliberately ruining some detail, so I wonder if on purpose.

I have suggested these things, not because I think something will come of it but to prevent waste of what has been done: that Bud ask for an 8x10 print made from the negative (which they can crop as they will with a scissors) or, failing in that, to let me have the print they gave him for a friend to make a 4x5 negative and different exposures on different enlargements as well as enlargements of segments. The cost will be slight. Jim likes the idea and will give it to Bud. If this happens, I'll see to it that Hal gets a copy of each print made-if he wants it.

But with experience teaching me that with Bud's whimsical use of his wealth I may get stuck for the cost of giving Hal copies, although in this case I don't expect it, I would like to know if he is interested before I get into it and take the time and perhaps get stuck for the cost. Can you please ask him? At the worst I'll be glad to lend him the postcard size prints I have. They are not good, are dusty, I presume because the original prints are, but are not entirely incomprehensible.

On another subject, my bird whose cage is not gilded has provided another example of his innate ineptness. He had told me that he was going to get me some exposed film that in time I might be able to use to recoup some of what he had cost me. I regarded this as a rather touching sign of appreciation and concern. He appears to have changed his mind about the ultimate use. But he has gotten the film to me. By hand. In the typical aluminum can in which 35mm cassettes are packaged. BUT, he has labelled it not to be opened, and shaking indicates the can has no cassette in it, for on shaking there is no metallic sound. He has labelled it with sufficient care not to have it accidentally exposed to light. But what he has not done is identify the film! Incredible as it seems, this did not occur to him. It is film with which I'll have to stand during all the stages of processing. So, not knowing the kind, this is what will be required for security: I'll have to take it to a friend who processes color, in the event it is color. He'll make arrangements to process what ordinarily he doesn't, black and white, just in case it is b and w film. And if it turns out to be positive color film, he'll return it to the can and I'll have the problem of finding someone who processes positive color film in whom I can have some trust. Nothing is simple with that bird, especially not what can be so very simple! I presume they are personal pictures. If I'd really had any interest in having any, I had permission to take some before the closing of the place in which he then was. But I've been anxious to avoid the taint of commercialism and I didn't have flash with me, that is, when I got the o.k. Fact is I can't afford a decent flash attachment for my Mamiya Secour TL1000, which is not a bad camera. And in my subminiature Ataron, Japanese copy of the Minox, which I use for souvenir pictures for Lil only, I had slow film (ASA25), which precluded inside pix. I suppose that it and when I go to see him again, I'll have to borrow flask equipment and be ready. I have a good rapport with the former keeper of the cage and if he again fills that role, there should be no problem.

The CIA-dope sequence was good. The incredible thing is the inability of the CIA to learn. They have made a prepublication best-seller of McCoy's book by the attention they've given it and the heavy-handed effort at censorship. In this case, also an effort at prior restraint.

Best,

