

JAN 7 1972

Dear Js,

1/4/72

Another friend has sent me the NYT 1/2 story, "Informer Says He Was Part of Coast Plot to Kill Cesar Chavez," so don't bother with it, unless you don't want it and would not be keeping it. In that event, there is someone to whom I'd send the dupe for a special and narrow reason.

I believe the Shears story, but there are strange, unaddressed and unanswered aspects.

This story represents a case of clear FBI jurisdiction. The involvement of pills is immaterial to the violation of the Civil Rights Law, conspiracy to deny civil rights. I therefore wonder why Treasury was in it further than getting the pill pushed picked up. Even if there is the possibility of a tax case against a farmer, as the story indicates was suspected, that also does not foreclose the FBI or eliminate its responsibilities.

If you know Caldwell, perhaps he can shed some light on a suspicion I think can't be ignored from his story: that organized crime was involved in this case, not from the personal interest of any member of any gang but because they seem to have been contracting certain illegal activities. One payoff man in unrelated cases is one clue, pills another.

The "dropping" of the name of the informant by the police in questioning cannot be regarded as an innocent accident.

Those who would want Chavez killed fall into an expectable grouping. The involvements outside such a grouping also indicate the use of either a contractor or a cut-off as the spooks call it, or a buffer, one to hide the identity of those paying for the hit.

Don't go to trouble on this, but if you know Caldwell, I'd appreciate anything else he has and any suspicions, whether or not they coincide with my own.

Best,

