

6 April 1973

Dear Harold:

Your last three letters, 4, 5 and 6, contained so much interesting and valuable material that it's impossible to respond to them. Extremely interesting columns by Kraft, von Hoffman and others in addition to all the news material.

From the beginning, we have been dubious about McCord and his actual intentions, but like you are conscious that it's much too early to draw conclusions. On the whole he appears to have contributed little new that was not profoundly suspected by most of us, at any rate.* Perhaps when he gets on the stand before the committee he'll be more specific, but until he does we're going on the assumption here that he has backing for what he's doing. Who, we don't know.

The one thing that appears consistent in the picture is that Hunt and the Cubans seem to be sticking together. Liddy seems to be sui generis. As you say, he's a lawyer.

Weicker, I'm sure I've seen it somewhere, regards himself as a friend of Gray, who is from Connecticut. So also is Baldwin, so Weicker may have constituents who are pressing him on either or both cases.

You offered a tape of Weicker on Meet the Press. We have one of him on Face the Nation (which I think you probably meant instead of Meet the Press) and I'm sending it to you so you can check. This tape, by the way, is a new Ampex deal, welded by a new process, which cost only 99¢ for a 120 minute cassette. Presumably an introductory offer, but still very good. After you check to make sure Weicker wasn't on two programs instead of one, please dub on one side your conversation with Bob Smith on Lamarra, and on the other, when you have time, the Hunt Firing Line program you're getting through Lesar. No Hurry. When ever you have time will be soon enough.* * This seems to be a good time to get ourselves briefed on the Lamarre episode, and a good tape on which to dub the Firing Line original sound track before it was edited. Our tape of the program as aired, made with a mike from a friend's TV set, is not good but good enough.

We'll pass the 10-minute tape on Prouty, thanks.

Also the tape of Kissinger-Barbara Walters, again thanks.

Will knock this off and get it in the mail.

jcw7apr73

* We're inclined to think, at this point anyway, that McCord is doing most of his own leaking. Some maybe from Weicker or Baker, but mostly from McCord. Possibly in spite of Bud's advice.

* * Also sending a 60-minute cheapie to help accomodate your longwinded conversation with Smith. I believe you may have another 60-minute deal from us already, but can't be sure.