

23 September 1973

Dear Harold:

We're clearing the decks for the resumption of hearings tomorrow, and the following are what seem to need answers from your recent letters.

Very sorry you worked yourself into such a job with Lydon Sheppard. The Lydon refers to Christopher Lydon, NY Times writer whose surname the STM tacked on to the reference to help identify the story. She follows this same form through this same memo and similar ones where the notation might be helpful.

Quarterly ~~Quarterly~~ Thanks for telling us about the Congressional ~~Quarterly~~ and what I take to be a WG chronology or index. First of all, I'm not familiar with the CQ, and the local library is no help. Suppose you borrow JL's copy and let us know how bulky it is (from the standpoint of postage ~~vs~~ the cost of copying ^(or buying) etc). Also you might be able to give us some idea of how good the chronology or index appears to be. We're interested, of course, but not anxious to burden either you or JL unnecessarily.

We missed the 9/10 Newsweek review of Hunt's book. If you're copying, and it's handy, perhaps you could make us one if it's not more than one sheet. No hurry, nor any desperate need, but since you find it interesting I'm sure we would too.

We very much agree with your 9.7.73 memo on Reston's column about Nixon, "Good Theater, Bad Politics." You put it all very well and in telling detail. I'd add only one thing: there is, in this man's abrasiveness and inability to compromise, his nasty habit of picking unnecessary fights in areas normal people avoid fighting in, something unmistakably Hitlerian, possibly unconsciously so. He is apart from the rest of humanity and doesn't understand it except to sense instinctively its weaknesses and inhibitions, then to attack like a piranha.

Horace Sutton: All I know about him is that he was for many years travel editor for the old Saturday Review, in fact built up the department for himself from scratch through lively and entertaining articles about far flung places and people. Through the years I often wondered about his background, and at times wondered if he didn't have or hadn't had connections, but never spotted anything that firmed up the idea. I too had the impression that much of his article on the Cubans was a rehash of a stack of clippings someone had been keeping, but I think there's little question but that he probably knows a lot about Miami anyway and that he may have checked out some of the angles in his article before actually writing it.

The WX Post for Sept. 18 still hasn't arrived with the story about Agnew's possible resignation. In any case, don't copy for us. The Chron carried quite fully, and we immediately reached the same conclusion you did, that this particular leak could have come only from the White House.. We anticipate an announcement roughly coincident with Hunt's taking the oath before the committee.

excerpt on

Thanks very much for the ~~xxxxxx~~ the report of the committee on criminal justice standards and goals. It makes a very worthwhile chapter, and we're pleased the Ramprts issue was of help.

Made it to the library the other day, and they have no knowledge of any sort of directory of mystery story writers. They brought out several books on the genre, most of which had indices and several of which discussed individual writers, but neither Hunt nor Leigh James appear to be mentioned.

If we get to either the SF or San Rafael library, we'll check further.

Still a bit tired and stiff after a workout seven of us had yesterday when we lined with concrete about 400 feet of ~~ditch~~ ditches along our road. By the time you've helped spread and shape 12 cubic yards of that stuff you know you've worked too long in awkward positions, like straddling the ditch and smoothing concrete below ground level. Anyway, we're now set for the rainy season.

Best to you both,



jdw