

20 September 1975

Dear Harold:

Yes, we do get PBS here via KQED, but they did not carry the Senate Intelligence Committee sessions out here. However, KPFA did carry them live the first two days, then switched on Thursday to the House Committee session which dealt with the Tet Offensive of 1968 and the CIA's failure to believe the warnings of its own analysts.

We taped KPFA all three days and retain the tapes, but I doubt if they contain anything you will need. We do not plan to keep them permanently, but will hang on to them for a while just in case.

KQED did carry an hour-long summary of the Senate committee sessions late each night, all three of which we saw, but again do not believe there was anything of value in them. In any case we did not tape these summaries.

The Senate committee sessions we regard as nothing but window dressing to distract attention from something bigger. (The more I consider this whole show the more I'm inclined to believe it was brought on last December when it appeared they could not stop the Marchetti-Marx book and most especially the Agee book. I've read Agee, and while there's much more that he doesn't tell than he does tell, and while his details rarely are new, the total impact of his book is devastating in that it shows clearly the attitude behind our foreign policy and the way we put it into effect: we assume we have every right to go into these other countries and take over, run their business for them, and if anyone gets in the way, too gaddamned bad.)

In any case the Senate Committee spent three days exercising its toothless gums over shellfish poisoning, darts and so on. Nobody knew anything when it came to who was responsible. Meanwhile no questions were asked about more than 30 other poisons referred to more than once, and no one asked the most obvious question of all: was not this shellfish gunk, only a tiny portion of which was needed for death in seconds, and which could be delivered undetected by dart up to 100 yards or so, and which could NOT be detected in autopsy -- was not this the perfect assassination device? No one even came near asking it. This alone shows how meaningless the whole thing was.

Be interesting to hear whether Bruce and D'Avy* turn out to have anything, or are they just more potential time-wasters foisted upon you. And how about the Loran Hall surfacing? That at least sounds a bit more real, since there actually is apparent reason for a libel suit against the Tatler.

Thanks, but I see no reason for us to have a copy of your ~~firm~~ appeal in the Ray case, which you kindly offered to have made along with other Xeroxing Jim had to do.

This should bring us up to date,

Best,

* We also find no reference to D'Avy in our files, which are indexed thoroughly for the Garrison period.