

Noted by CG

23 Aug HM

FAR CRY FARM  
PARK HALL  
St. Mary's County  
MARYLAND

22 Aug. 1950

*File - no action*

Dear Beetle:-

The papers and radio were full of you and Griffing Bancroft the radio reporter had you down as an Admiral. There is as yet no prize for any fishing contest and I am sorely disappointed. I thought that with you so busy, I could sneak a lot of use out of such an outfit. The fish are running slowly in Chesapeake Bay. Sam Rayburn was down the other night and fell in love with the place but as yet we have no guest house, although work is started. This is a hide-out par excellence, but with two telephones so that reasonable alertness can be maintained. I have a spare log cabin in the pine woods on the Bay shore that you can have for your very own with lock and key if you want it. It needs some modernizing, and telephone and electricity is right handy, but it should be ideal for fishing and gunning this winter. I would not offer it to anyone else, but it's yours, if you can use it.

I know that you are going to do a great job in your new post and I am prepared to help you all that I can. I believe that your bipartisan approach to Congress will give you a honeymoon longer than most administrative officers in the midst of an election year. You should get past November without any trouble and this will mean two years of open sailing unless the Republicans take control of the Senate. Then every Truman appointee will be unfairly treated.

Before your appointment was announced a few of the palace guard took shots at you and I know the characters and what they said. When I see you - can give you a general briefing on this, not to raise your hackles but to give you a look at the cards. Also there is some State Department notion that CIA has some characters aboard who are not loyal. Still another government agency may not give CIA full cooperation. I would like to fill you in on these items, all of which may or may not be important. You should have, as I see it, a very quiet and confidential lobby on the Hill to prevent misunderstandings and captious criticism. Let us call it "liaison" rather than "lobby".

On the newspaper side, I think that Pegler and Pearson are your chief headaches. You, or anyone, has much to fear from either, as they will jeer even when a mistake is not made. A trusted aide can handle both, if their fur is not stroked backward, and they are made to feel that they are "in". I believe in regarding smear journalism objectively, continually trying to use it to the advantage of the job. I found it worked well when I was handling Tom Clark. I think that Pearson will take a shot at Jackson because of the Rockefeller sponsorship.

The item of "evaluation" seems to be uppermost in Congress as to the operations of CIA. Regardless of the "crying wolf" reaction, I certainly would look upon almost everything nowadays in ~~the~~ the worst possible light. No one has a





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crystal ball as far as I can see and this "evaluation" deal can be a booby trap of the most dangerous variety. I would say that in CIA no news is bad news and any news must be regarded in its most sinister light. The public is very panicky here and in Europe nowadays and we need a psychological lift right away.

That's about the thoughts for a gray morning here on the edge of nowhere. I think that if you want to request my services as a confidential consultant, the President would readily approve. I can put someone else in charge of the news service and the public relations accounts.

Best to you and Norie



Jim

M/C Inman