Dear Paul,

I am deeply disturbed, ver deeply, at Hal's reported indiscretion. Perhaps if there had been any remote possibility of any useful purpose having been served, I might feel less this way. I send you this copy of my letter to him in confidence, to go no further than Jim, and I ask you to consider whether the three of you or you and Hal should discuss this. We can hurt ourselves so much by this kind of at best foolishness. We must learn to practise reasonable security, not to be gadflies and chatterboxes. Do we not know more than we need to of how fortunate we are to have survived some of our "friends"? They can be more hurtful than open enemies. Some have been.

I place no restrictions on you whatsoever. When you get the things I send you, I expect you to share with Hal and Jim what you think you should. Hal is great. He should know how I feel about him. But he simply must learn to button his lip and not to flash things around. I do insist that what I send be restricted to the three of you. I go further, if you think there is ever any reason to impose more restriction, please do it. I anticipate none. I do suggest that you ask yourself, from time to time, whether copies of the correspondence I send you really should be made, whether making them is in furtherance of a useful purpose. If not, generally I'd be inclined to think it should not be. He was careless with a letter to me from a man who could be most seriously embarrassed. This, in itself, could seriously embarrass me and jeopardize many possibly useful eventualities.

Possibly what bores me most is that Hal knows better. That he does such things despite his better judgement is really potentially dangerous and a peculiar kind of vanity. One of the people involved is one who has gone out of his way to manufacture a dislike for me. And he has, really, damaged me, hurt my work and my sources - believe me, without reason. In the past I have gotten feedback of things I kept very close from Lifton, too.

One such indiscretion is enough to dry up all sources.

Those we oppose, or who oppose us, are powerful. We are the opposite. When we consider what they have been able to get away with and what they have done we should really be careful and not do what we must not - do only what is necessary. The few of us who are doing meaningful work must have a close relationship. But we also must be careful. The alternative is self-destruction.

If Hal discusses this with you, please encourage him not to try and learn how I learned, for that would merely make more mischief. That I learned should be all that he needs.

This is a distasteful thing, especially because of my warm feeling for Hal. But it cannot be ignored, must be stopped for it is very dangerous.

I must stop now and do other things, get my mind on other things, too. However, I want you to know that I have photocopies of Ray's letters to Judge Battle. I have placed them in haste only (they arrived today). They do contain serious charges against Foreman. I'll go over them carefully when I can and go into it more. I also have a brash, very young, very sweet and willing girl in London who has gone to Scotland Yard for information for me. Any chores from you?