

Clas mat
23 March 1957

Dear "Nick",

As you know, we are back in our home in California and being near JPL and the various places where you and I were associated together in our mutual efforts for better weapons, it makes me especially mindful of the situation in which you ^{now} find yourself. Rest assured that you have my confidence in that you did what you believe to be in the best interests of the U.S. Army and I hope that my statement of such confidence will be of some encouragement to you.

As soon as I read the charges made against you, I thought of the times when you and I wrote official reports and talked to higher echelons - you in the then Army Ground Force and I in Ordnance - to keep the "Corpsal" program from being cancelled in favor of the "Hermes" - and we were given some pretty rough replies. But the years since have proven that our evaluation was correct - the "Corpsal" is operational and in production.

It will be truly interesting to learn the final outcome of the "Jupiter". I have been "out of touch" with the Army missiles since 1951 so I have no basis for a personal opinion but I am sure that you had the facts and that you were doing your best to present those facts to someone who would

bring them to the attention of proper authorities. I know that you are loyal to the Army and had no intent to disclose classified information to unauthorized persons, so I feel that you are innocent of the charges.

In my work for Arthur D. Kittle, Inc., I have frequent contacts with such mutual acquaintances as Loris Dunn, Bill Pidering, Howard Seifert, Sol Druever and Dale Bagley. Edyth Dyer is still at J.P.H. but Myrtle Small is at S.A. O.D. Myrtle Yeoman is in the Ordnance office at Firestone, Southgate, and Julie Seal Kay is with Social Security. Bill Russell and John Crum (both ~~former~~ ^{Army} student officers at Caltich when you were there) are out of the Army and working at Hamo-Wooldridge.

I think Evelyn has written other news of us to Lard, so I will not repeat. When this trial business is all over, I would like very much to hear from you all with news of you and yours. Sincere best wishes — and keep your chin up.

Sincerely,

Ben Mesick