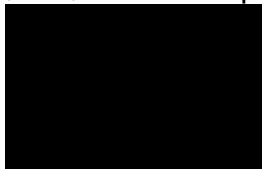


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17th October 1978

Ken Follett Esq.,



Dear Ken,

YELLOWCAKE PIRATES

My thanks for the new outline. This is coming together really well which is exciting for all of us.

I am particularly attracted to your re-characterisations of ASHFORD AND SUZA. Both totally credible and interesting. Also the 'race' is now completely convincing.

Having mulled over the outline for a week, there are some further thoughts I'd like to put on paper. Some I hope may be helpful.

1. The plot centres round the Israeli attempt to obtain secret uranium. It dawns on me now, that no mention is made as to how the Egyptians got so lucky. Chapt 4. Suggests that Russians not the source. Possibly they could be? ie smuggled in uranium because concerned that tiny Israel could do a David and Goliath. (But not technology: so far and no further.)
2. Chapt. 10. 'Bugging Lloyds.' Could cause more than 'raising eyebrows' inside and outside Lloyds at the mere suggestion that it could be possible. The info could be gained fairly simply involving some sort of seduction.
3. Chapt 14. ASHFORD is pro-Arab. If he doesn't know of daughter's love for DICKSTEIN (and he needn't) possible that he and HASSAN expect SUZA to be pro-Arab too (mother Lebanese, etc.) Could be SUZA's idea to join in and help HASSAN ie no box-hedge.

/continued

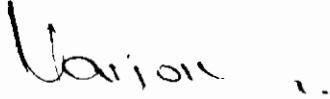
4. Chapt 15. SUZA has led HASSAN to Sicily, through CORTONE. ROSTOV has radio seaman on STROMBERG, so already there?
5. Chapt 16. Why SUZA now with ROSTOV? Could be that she gave a hint to ROSTOV of HASSAN's possible plan (to save DICKSTEIN). ROSTOV takes her with him to prove true (and co-opt her to KGB) or false (and kill her).

We are going to try and be patient in waiting for your script. But will find it extremely difficult. So looking forward to reading it.

Much enjoyed our meeting.

All best wishes,

Yours,



MARJORY CHAPMAN