9 August 77

Dear Colin,

Here is an outline - or at any rate a skeleton - for the uranium book. Bear in mind that it's about what happens rather than how it happens; for how things happen depends a lot on the research, and that's why some of the links in the plot may at the moment seem either vague or unoriginal.

Yours.

Ken Follett.

THE YELLOWCAKE PIRATES/KEN FOLLETT

Suggested points for discussion re. Outline

Interrogator in fact killing own fellow agent. Chapter 1 More acceptable if interrogator's side-kick is the double agent.

Chapter 3 Unless we are going backwards in time, (now 1968) Nat DICKSTEIN if 41, born in 1927. Hardly old enough to have had a 'tough' war. Have to be at least 43.

More plausible if [‡]tail[‡] <u>not</u> reporting back to ROSTOV. Chapter 5 Report to fellow KGB agent: ROSTOV recognises name and asks to take over the assignment because of previous acquaintance with DICKSTEIN.

Is 'He' ASHFORD? Chapter 8

Maybe Chapter 9 Aren t we all getting a bit bored with promiscuous females. How about SUZA's innocence captivating DICKSTEIN and overcoming his inhibitions. Learn and love together. Could be just as effective — if not more so. No Arabid -

ASHFORD a double agent. $\underline{\text{Must}}$ it be Moscow? Why not Egyptian Intelligence. Chapter 20 Fly to Arab country. Chapter 1D Would fit with his feelings re. Britain and Middle East; also Lebanese wife.

Old [unintelligible]

Think probably necessary to give reader a hint of why Chapter 12 HASSAN is lying to ROSTOV.

Middle East [unintelligble]

Presumably the DICKSTEIN ship which takes off the crew Chapter 16 of the <u>Coparelli</u>, is the [®]small[®] ship he first bought? Where do the PLO come from?

MAIN CONCERN RE PLOT

Chapter 16 BORG tells of Egyptian ultimatum: Israelis out of Sinai, or Arabs will attack with <u>nuclear weapons</u>. By chapter 20 the Uranium is in Israel. A long way from having an atomic bomb.

Is it really checkmate?

Toby: Quote

) JOE.

Muchody at Egypt reakly ,

Kremlin [unintelligible]

Kremlin discurion.

Egypt + hout.

Somebody at Egypt [unintelligible] going [unintelligible] day reports

Egypt & [unintelligible]

form has wind subs

[Unintelligible] has vital [unintelligible] I [unintelligible] him at Sicily