

Dear Dick,

5/12/91

There were so many interruptions it took a week for me to read and make a few notes about and corrections in the Prologue of The King Conspiracies, of which I sent you a copy of the rough draft. I did not try to edit it but I did want to add a few of the sources, make any needed factual corrections and eliminate duplications. I've made only a few additions. There is one major duplication to eliminate. After that I'll send you a copy on the chance it may at some point serve a useful purpose.

Lardner and his story on the Oliver Stone movie have taken little time. The riots in DC delayed his story a week. Which I regret. They still plan it for the Sunday Outlook Section. It is the kinds of things I can't avoid that take the time, as they will the next two days again.

I've made a few notes on citations I want to have on paper before I can forget and I want to pick up, perhaps with copies, some of them that are possible for me.

After I then go over the box in which Helen and I kept what I wanted her to do so I can remember and perhaps do what she did not get to I plan to read what I wrote years ago and annotate it, on both content and sources. Then I'll get to the FOIA material.

As best I can now anticipate the immediate future the only real help I'll need is not in locating and copying the records I'll want to use in writing but those Helen did not copy but I'll want to cite, what was not in the notes we did find. If the field office notes should turn up there will continue to be interruptions and the future is so uncertain I'll use them for specific documents cited, not as a means of locating other useful information. I now have more than I'll be able to use but all are not of equal value.

If you are willing, I'd like to be able to continue with part-time student help on this but not for extensive copying but for obtaining the citations. If you are willing, I've spoken to a fellow student Helen recommended. I've told her I cannot accurately forecast how much work there will be or how long it would take and that I would proceed on a different basis: accumulating enough to give her a half-day's work when she is here and that all or just about all would be locating specific sources for which, for the most part, she'll have the copy. Initially, except perhaps for a few published sources, this will be in the discovery material ^{and} the record of the evidentiary hearing, those two weeks of Memphis hearings. Also my records of my investigations for them.

What we did discover when Helen searched is that we can't find my tapes! I have no reason to believe that they were stolen but they were not where I clearly recall placing them and we could not find them anywhere else. On some at least I'll have notes.

The material itself may be regarded as so controversial and so foreign to the experiences of editors and publishers I believe that substantial if not comprehensive citation of sources is important if not essential.

I'm reminded as I think that some citations of the FOIA litigation will require some

citations of it.

The interruptions I can anticipate after the next two days of interruptions I first assure you do not appear to be serious. So, do not be concerned about them. They do have to do with health, Lil's, mine and her sister's. Lil has had a kind of relapse from the sprained ankle but as of yesterday the orthopaedist was not concerned about it. I have driven Lil's sister to some time-consuming medical examinations because she was nervous about them and when nervous, should not drive even though she is an excellent driver. Suddenly she has a series of problems but all those already identified, hopefully all, ~~all~~ can be well controlled. She and Lil have had to forgo the use of a friend's Florida condo for at least two months as a result. (One medication requires avoid exposure to the sun.)

Lil is able to get around and she has instructions to do so. Last night we went to the Korean's restaurant and when his wife saw that Lil was limping before we left she prepared and gave us today's main meal to save Lil that work. Nice, huh?

Until Lardner's story appears, which also means until he does not have to have his mind on it, I do not want to raise the question of putting me in touch with Osnos. As soon as ~~he~~ ^{it} does, however, I'll ask him.

An encouraging note about my heart, if not about my cardiologist: it does speed up, although the family doctor told me his interpretation of the 24-hour monitor is that it doesn't. When I felt this yesterday I timed it. You can imagine how weak I've gotten when using the riding mower tires me and I could feel the heart beating. If I can't learn anything about this locally I'll be at Johns Hopkins next month for a regular check and will ask there. In this regard, I appreciate very much your offer of medical assistance there but it is not practical. Your friend Doctor Segal did not blow smoke as my local doctors continue to do.

Thanks and best to you all,

Harold