Dear Jim,

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Except for the problems caused by the weather there was nothing of moment during your absence. I wrote Hall as I told you and our exchange is enclosed. Also an extra copy of a letter from Theoharis in which Bud may have some interest.

It appears that all the work we did here for the 1996 appeal was wasted. There is no doubt that most of the work I did on affidavits and other matters in 0322/0420 also was wasted. I'm well past the point where I can consider, leave alone justify, such wastes of what remains of my time.

I had begun a lengthy thing for you in 226, addressing various aspects and their importance for requesting recovery of costs. When I can I'll package them up, making as much sense as I can of them, and I'll send them. I'd begun an affidavit and I had some roughs for some intended sections. Some are read, some not, and in some instances I have copies of records for exhibits. Much as I need to recover what I have invested in that litigation, there just is no point in my continuing to draft affidavits for no purpose.

Now that all cases are out of district court and that I will not be doing any more such affidavits I can look forward to cleaning up all other odss and ends so I can get back tomwriting.

I have not been able to make up my mind about a reprint of Whitewash. I had a better price in baltimore and I'm having a few copies made there.

I'll be sending you copies of some pages of Thecharis' cold war/Hiss book, which has a truly fine chapter on the FBI's filing and hiding practises. Even though I've said the same things, he is a professor and that means more. And he says things I didn't attest to. I've borrowed the book and an still reading it. (Odd he dies not seem to have tumbled to ticklers. I'll by writing him soon.)

ope you all had a nice holiday and that the coming year is a good one.

best .