

5/11/70

Dear Mary,

Glad to get your letter of the 7th and the enclosed clips. One, with a headline saying the FORD future was hazy, also said it was continued from page 27, but there was no p. 27. Not important, unless it is just laying around. I am wondering about trying to approach Mayhew to see if he could be interested in my work.

Your reaction to my intrusion into your personal affairs pleases me no end for I did it with misgivings, it being none of my business. But I do consider such things the obligation if not the right of friends. It may mean nothing in the long run, but maybe it can or will. Let us hope so. The report it to a layman encouraging, but my slight knowledge of such things reminds me of icebergs and what is visible.

You misread my meaning if you took it to indicate any shortcomings when I spoke of David. You understood what I was saying, so I made that clear, but I intended no subtle chiding at all. On that point, though, and we want no publicity on it, so tell Arch but don't spread it, we now have the capitulation of DJ in hand, in writing, and I'll test it in the a.m. when I appear to go over the documents. You'll get a copy, of the letter, that is. In this area we are making progress, and I wish I had a bright young law student or lawyer who could spend the summer here helping prepare just such things. I am close to filing more suits than I can recall. There could be no fewer than 50 if I were so minded. Next is on the penal reports. I can do that immediately.

I have not seen Newman's book. He blocked publication of "WHITEBUSH" in 1965 when an employee of a publisher who had decided to do it sought his opinion on accuracy of content. He had been unable to get it published for years. The mail came when Paul had just gotten here, so Paul and I were talking while Lil read it. When she came to your line, "However, I don't think he knows the Archives exists", she laughed, read it to us, and we also enjoyed it.

If reworking Sprague's article will cost you anything, hold off until we see if Mr. Butler or anyone else sends it. If it doesn't, I'd like to read it soon. I got a phone call from a radio station about it after reading the (terrifying) story. I was able to evade the story and just say how important it is that Dick collected all those pictures. Berkeley may send me a copy. We have had a slight correspondence. The attention this and Skolnick get reminds me again of the standards of our society, where the functioning plumbing is of no interest but the overflowed toilet is news. This kind of story, with at least four assassins, "about" (!) six confessions (ever hear of them?) and 50 conspirators on the spot, help us like the plague.

I filed a suit against Skolnick by mail. Neither he nor any of the media have responded in any way. They have an instinctive feeling for what helps and what hurts us and, I think, much of Chicago lives in fear of what he can do to them, if only in lawyer's fees defending his spurious suits. One station told me this. Meanwhile, having tested blood and learned how cheaply it can be had, he is after CBS on the MEJ suppression (which got no press), and that I welcome.

Best to you all,

4406 Holland
Dallas, Texas 75219
May 7, 1970

Dear Harold:

I just can't begin to tell you how much I appreciate your concern and Gary's about Jimmy Lee. I shall call Gary just as soon as we put Jimmy on the plane to go back to L.A. He is going back to escort Fred's daughter, Val, to her senior prom. He will only be out there for a couple of days but he has been right by me every time I've been home and I couldn't very well call and talk about him to Gary in front of him. He hasn't had one of those "hallucinating" spells for some time now and we are very encouraged about him. He has also put back the weight he lost. He is over 6 feet and weighed over 200 before the little episode in the jail when he lost 40 pounds... My husband is staying in town now which is good for Jimmy. Buck had been either travelling or living in Waco, Texas, for about five years.

Harold, I am enclosing Xerox copies of several clippings I'd promised to send you and hadn't taken the time to copy. I hope they will be of help to you.

Buck and I both appreciated the beautiful remarks you made about our little grandson David.... "Let little boys grow up happily..." etc... Remarks like that make us realize our shortcomings but perhaps we'll do a better job with our grandchildren than we did with our own.

Have you read Newman's new book, The Assassination of John F. Kennedy? He comes to the same conclusion as the Warren Commission but some of his analyses about LHO's relationships are very good. However, I don't think he knows that the Archives exists. As far as I can tell, every word is based on the 26 volumes and the Report.

Cutler promised to send me a copy of the Computer and Automation magazine containing Sprague's article. I haven't received it yet. I called and found out that it is a "by subscription only" publication and called my daughter who is a computer programmer and asked her to check with I.B.M. and Honeywell and ask her friends if they subscribe and if I could borrow the May issue. She apparently hasn't located a copy yet. If I get a copy before you do, I'll Xerox the 32 pages for you.

Must get to work...

Love,

