

Dear Dick,

3/15/74

As your letter of 3/12 says, candor deserves candor.

I do not know if your memory is faulty or if there is another explanation of the factual error. I do recognize lawyer's language when I see it, so I find myself wondering if fear that I might complain of sue is in your mind. I have and had no such intention.

It is true that you never signed a representation agreement and that you never took a fee. It is not true that you never acted as my attorney and in one case you alone prevented my getting something. Meredith wrote that they were awaiting word from you on their settlement offer. I would have accepted almost anything. You and they were in touch on this after I spoke to you. There was no doubt of my getting what was contracted for. What was in question was how much more they would pay for damages that were done me.

When your letter came in the morning yesterday I was disturbed because of the factual error in it and the answers not in it. So, before going to bed last night I got out the relevant files and checked my own recollection. If my memory is not photographic as it once was on virtually everything, it has not failed on what I do recall. The letters are there and it is as I did recall.

When you were officed at both Parallax and Grove you did agree to represent me in the "all matters. I did send you the files and you later decided that having been their counsel you could not represent me. You did refer me around and those records I also have. It was later, after you did not follow through when all it took was phone conversation with the then president of Meredith that you referred me to Manny, in whose offices you also had an office. Or your name. I never saw you there.

The last time I saw Manny before his suspension he said he needed some advice from you on technical points. After he spoke to you I did. You were leaving for Los Angeles and would get together with him on his return. He would then proceed. You know how you both did.

When I phoned you last May it was for help in getting my files back from Manny. He has only copies of some items because there were times I was too broke to buy copy-machine paper. We again discussed the Dell matters. You then said you could not represent me in the sense of going to court but you could in negotiations. You said you had an idea how much it would cost Dell to defend and that you thought Bair would be willing to settle for that amount. I agreed. I know your earlier representation of the evidentiary value of the file I provided and know that whether or not it is criminal, it ~~surely~~ contains evidence of civil fraud, more than one instance.

When you did nothing and the young lawyer I had met was not able to because of the business affairs of the firm by which he is employed, I wrote Bair about four months ago. When there was no answer I wrote again. I then got a reply from the one to whom he referred it saying they had not received that letter. I sent him a copy six weeks ago and have heard nothing. I think it was a woman. Bair is now a vice president. So if, as you said you would, you did speak to Bair, this is how much good it did. I haven't even gotten the accounting I asked for. I never got a complete one because they simply didn't change his address as John Friedman moved around.

I have never tried to press the role of attorney on you. I did ask you if you could do certain things, you did say you would, and it was voluntary on your part, whether or not you did anything.

Before Manny left the offices in which he was last May he removed all the papers he had there. He told me in May, the day before his mother died, that he had my files at his home. I regret that your letter reports only his brother's lack of knowledge of his whereabouts, not that neither his brother nor his wife knows where his papers are.

One possible explanation is that your memory just failed you, these matters not having the significance to you that they do to me. Were it the only one possible I would feel easier.

The timing on this was particularly unfortunate for me because only yesterday morning, early, I had started writing again, after a long period in which it had been impossible. It is sufficiently unpleasant to know that there is no prospect for this writing and that there is also no prospect that a complete record will be made unless I do it, whether or not it can be published. The work to this point is several separate books. I began as Comart and Gross indicated they preferred and when they fell silent then switched to the organization I now have. After all the time that has elapsed, it is surprising that so much of what I so early wrote has not yet been out together as I did, the only way in which it can have meaning, and that so much of it is still entirely new. The part in which you expressed interest, that relating to CIA, I have not written for a number of reasons, two being to be able to collect more and to see what eventuated. I have more than enough for entirely new and nowhere indicated criminal charges and convictions. It is truly the most sensational material some of which was officially suppressed. I also have an extensive file on Jaworski from the days when he ran the Texas whitewash of the JFK assassination, when he was himself CIA and a conduit for clandestine funds. So, what if anything he will do is not predictable because I cannot now predict how he will conceive his personal interests and how he will reconcile the conflicts of interest.

Despite the nature of the work I have done I remain essentially naive and trusting. Despite a long history of disappointments I still react when those I have trusted cause further disappointments but what they do and do not do. Between the Scylla of poverty and the Charybdis of fear of official dislike of the work I do, my options are so severely limited that I can turn to friends only.

And here, too, realizing that these friends with capabilities are the ones on whom I can't depend is disappointing. I have two competitive expressions of Hollywood interest in part of my work, one beginning with talk of a quarter of a million dollars if I know that talk means nothing until the check has cleared, I also know that I did not solicit either approach. And it tells me further that the potential I saw in this work is real, if no agent or anyone else with an agent's capabilities saw it.

Coinciding with this is the desire of two institutions for my files as archives. Neither has the financing today, neither has connections with the funds and foundations that could make it possible, and those who know me and my work who can make these kinds of approaches do not, despite their fine speeches and protestations of high principle. So, if anything comes of these interests in time to be of value to me, the scholastics will have to become activists, and I do not expect it.

Perhaps these explanations will help you understand the disappointment I felt on getting your letter.

In looking over the files last night I found the cute childish letters your boys wrote me years ago after what I had forgotten, their getting the camera. If you or Jill would like these reminders of their childhood I will send them. I had also forgotten their joy at the animal stories I used to tell them, some in writing.

Sincerely,

*Richard T. Gallen*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

14 EAST 60TH STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022  
PHONE 752-1713

March 12, 1974

Harold Weisberg  
Route 8  
Frederick, Md. 21701

Dear Harold,

*This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 5, 1974. Your candid letter requires a candid response.*

*I am not your attorney nor have I ever been your attorney. I have never signed a representation agreement with you nor have I received any legal fees from you.*

*I have enormous respect for you, your integrity and your work. I am not, have never been, nor intend to be a "collection" attorney. I resent your attempting to force this role upon me. As a wise and mature individual you are well aware of the need of reciprocity in any relationship. I sincerely regret that you cannot secure your files from Emmanuel Pavsner. I spoke with his brother today and his brother does not know his whereabouts. He has not been in contact with his family for 6 months. I do not know where he is. I do not know where his files are.*

*If Meredith owes you money then you should either press them yourself or retain an attorney to do so.*

*In summary, I am not your attorney nor do I wish to be. Don't attempt to impose that role on me.*

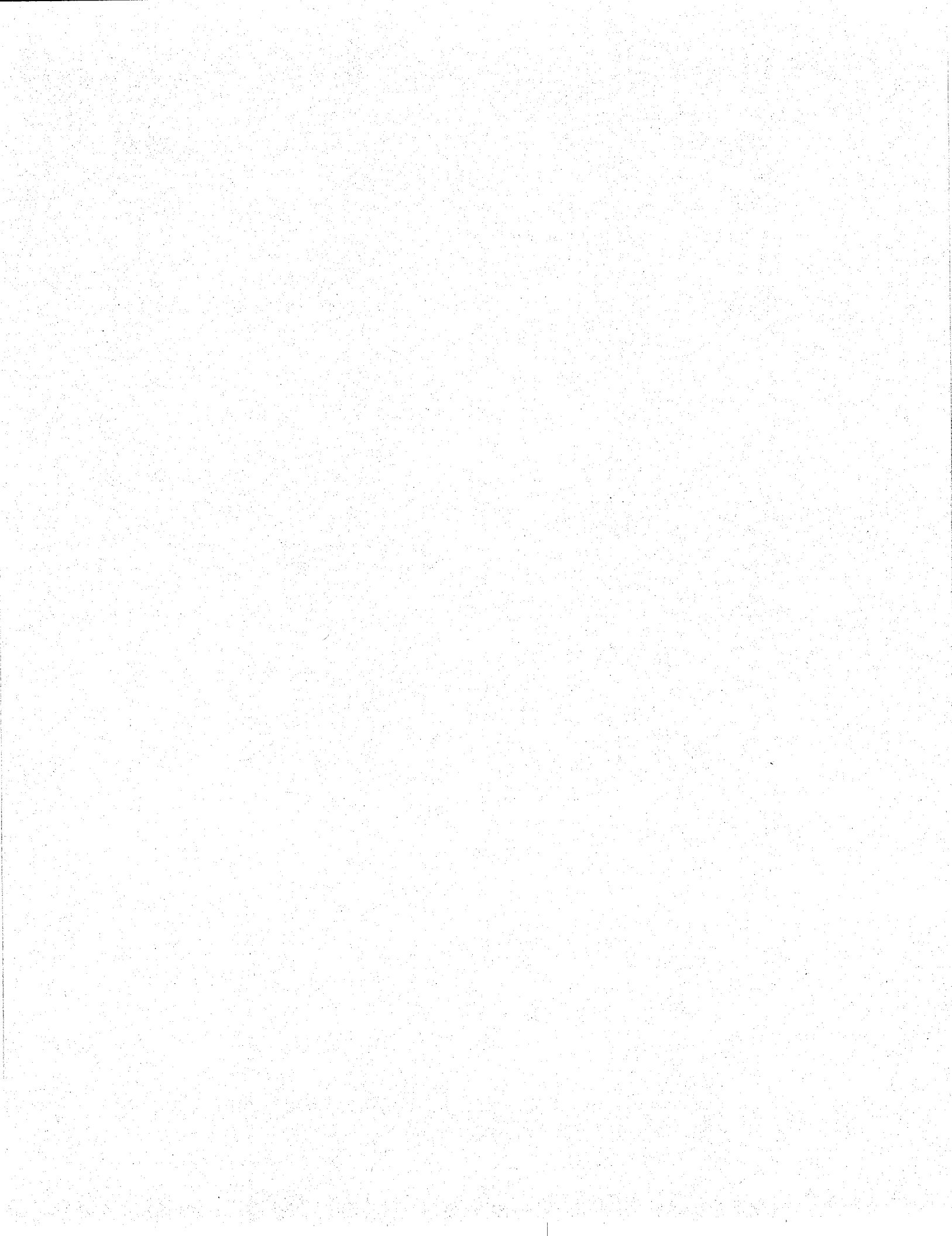
*I remain your friend, and am delighted about sharing my own experiences and insights with you as a friend.*

*My sincerest best personal wishes for success in your work.*

*Sincerely,*

*Dick*

Richard T. Gallen



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3/15/74

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14 EAST 60TH STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

*Harold Weisberg*  
Route 8  
Frederick, Maryland 21701



GRAND CENTRAL  
STATION

