

12/20/76

Dear Jim,

As you will gather from the enclosure I heard from ~~Wyeth~~ Harper's house counsel in response to my letter to Wyeth. He called during the NBC net news tonight, after 6:30. He said he had spoken to you first, for which I thanked him.

You will also see how open I was with him from my letter. I did look up the tapes and have brought ^{them} to where the files are. I read a few excerpts from the correspondence to him.

He wanted me to read the proofs and tell him what was taken. I told him I had done this on the manuscript for Playboy and they are welcome to copy that. He did, finally, admit that the book is just about the Playboy articles.

He wanted to know if there is anything besides copyright involved and I said yes.

Which books? I remembered Post Mortem and the King Conspiracies and Frame-Up but I do not recall if He used other stuff and so told Fox.

He said I would hear from him again by Wednesday.

He may or may not have remembered the holiday. He did phone after the end of the normal working day.

So I decided to make a further demonstration of good faith on my part by offering him the access in writing.

I did not question him on it but he said they did not buy this from Playboy. Of course McKinley is the author but he sold the stuff to Playboy.

I just do not see how Playboy is not involved.

While I do not recall exactly when I wrote Wyeth it has been some time. I assume they spent some time checking before he called.

The illustration I recall giving him is how the King killing was committed. On this I also went into my conversation with Gonzales and then with Playboy's counsel, Rubin, and his assurances.

I read him part of Gonzales' letter praising me for my reasonableness when they paid me for what they stole from my JFK work. That is, of course, an admission of the theft.

Best,