

Copy sent to Kershaw

Dear Jimmy,

8/26/77

There is nothing I can say in response to your carbon of your letter of 8/17 to Bud that I have not already said and that you for some reason you simply refuse to believe. I'm repeating it because I feel it is necessary to send a copy to Kershaw.

My recollection of the Hill papers is not clear except I do know I do not have them. My belief is that you did not give them to me.

Jerry did send me a tape of Mike on a Nashville TV program. You did send me a cassette of exposed but undeveloped 35 mm color film from your prior visit to Brushy.

In neither case was there any string attached until afterward. While I have no present objection to these ex poste facto businesses you would have had both long ago if I could find them. Or were able to make a search for them other than I have. Jerry did ask me about the film and the tape more than a year ago. I told him then and you later that I simply cannot find them and if I did would provide them. I also saw Jerry, with Jim present, at the Chicago airport last year, just before he was leaving on vacation. He then planned going down to Georgia. I invited him to come here and search for himself either going or coming. He did not, as you know.

I'm sorry you will not recognize that reality is what is, not what you want it to be. The reality is that I am severely limited in what I can do first from acute thrombophlebitis in both legs and thighs and more recently from an as yet not fully diagnosed arterial complication. As recently as the first of this month I could not walk 250 yards without getting woozy. I have improved some under medication but I can't do much and this includes even bending to get into files.

Now if you have any doubts about any of this I have seen to it that Jim has full knowledge because he is my lawyer and executor. He was with me the first of the month, for example, when I had an expert consultation with the specialist who was the consultant on Nixon's case. He can tell you also that from several months I have not been able to get to Washington to attend hearings in my own cases. These are the realities, not that silliness of yours last time I saw you, how fine I looked and felt because I was wearing what you called "hippie shoes." From the pen I went to the Nashville airport, where the airline single-loaded me after taking one look and putting me in a wheelchair. They then sat a nurse next to me for the trip to Washington and I went from the airport to the clinic.

If I can get someone to go through my tapes it should be possible to locate the one Jerry sent me. But I do not have them filed so I can't go through a file cabinet to locate it. If I could I would have sent it to you. I did what I was able to do when Jerry first asked me for it.

I have looked every place I can think of for the film. I remember where I last saw it but it disappeared when I had a new file cabinet put in. If I had felt it was safe and wise at that time I would have had the film developed commercially. But having had experience with film processors making copies of pictures they can commercialize I was not willing to risk the processing of color film through my friendly corner drugstore. Our local camera shops do not process color. I did some checking and I found someone I know who could process color and who would do it while I waited if I would wait until he had a free night. He then was taken ill. This is why it did not get done until after it got lost.

Unless this film is other than you represented I do not know what the big deal is. You told me they would be pictures of you that you thought I could sell to recover some of my expenses in investigating for you. It is obvious I had no intention of doing that anyway. It also is obvious that you have since had many pictures taken of you, if not those suitable for framing.

If you were capable of being reasonable you'd be able to see that what you want means absolutely nothing to me. From this you should be able to see that I have no reason for not giving it to you if I had or could find it. It certainly would be a lot less unpleasant that having to respond to foolish letters in which you make childish threats.

If there is any way in which I can locate either the film or the tape or both I will send them to you. I have told you this before. But I do live out in the country. I have not been able to obtain any help of any kind. I need help for such things as filing, cutting

the grass and many other things. I just have not been able to get any help, except that between a drought and a friend who would come now and then to mow some grass half of that has been kept under control.

Believe whatever you want to talk yourself into. This is the truth.
I wish it were not.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg