to live, that he has this enormous intellect and that it gives him an understanding that on the one hand is denied mere mortals and on the other hand eliminates any need for the use of real fact and on the other makes him infalliable. Or, the Garrison syndrome. And part of it is another Garrison reaction, resentment that I know and do what he hasn't and can't. It drives him to strange perversities. The pictures and his refusal to pay for them and the last-minute rush with them is but one of the many comprehensible illustrations. All these last-minute letters is another. I saw the need and he didn't, so he prevented them when they were necessary by simply not writing them, as recently as when I phoned him from St. Louis with Frank's promise and the right approach. Months later you had to write that letter. Now you go to Brimingham, as I said, when I should have done it two years ago.

There is no end to these illustrations if I wanted to tick them off.

Bud says and believes, as recently as on the second in Philadelphia, that I am mad at everyone. This, of course, is false. And I have taken from him what I would take from very few simply so that we could succeed. It is part of the illusion he lives and tries to will into reality. I have tried in every gentle way I could from the beginning to warn you that you are in the middle. When gentleness didn't get the full understanding across, I got more abrasive. My experience is that with the kinds of nuts and egos who have forced themselves (holding what they regard as the holiest of intentions) into work on the assassinations, nothing less than the club influences the head. I did not and do not regard you as one of these. If it turns out I was wrong not to have used a verbal club with you, this records my acceptance of responsibility for it.

The past can't be undone. The one thing we can do with it is learn from it. Beginning now, I hope you do. You can't serve two masters. Your primary obligation is to the interest of the client and justice. In this case I find them inseparable. You may disagree. I regard Bud's ego as the least significant factor, one worth no consideration at all. It has dominated everything to this point, regardless of the very considerable and to a large degree excellent work you have done. That could could and would have been much better if you had ignored Bud's ego needs. That it is good is not enough. It has to be the best possible.

There is a weird aspect to this ego business. I do all the work I have done, which amounts to giving Bud both his client and his case - and not only without a cent of compensation but without the recovery of all my costs, including what he at least inherently authorized. He takes Flammonde to Maryland and lies to you about it. But he tells me he does not have the money to repay me for phone calls? Or won't pay the cost of getting the pictures you now find you need, as though the average intelligent high-school freshman ought not have seen this a year and a half ago when I did? (I didn't ask you, you offered to see that I was paid for them, but it hasn't happened, and I'm not now asking.) Bud's forte in this field is stealing and bragging (he hasn t stopped), not doing. But my point is that here I am, depsarately broke, unable to pay for everyday needs, and I have to take various kinds of abuse on top of all the rest? I am to have no feelings? I have sublimated them, and I have been publicly silent. I have no plans for changing this. But that does not mean that I will not under any circumstances.

I intend this as the club not previously swung. It hasn't hit. I don't want to do more than raise it. Unless I see a need to, I won't. But believe me, if I see a need to, I will. I am aware that under ordinary circumstances, a pisspoor job should succeed under the existing circumstances in this case. But this is not an ordinary case. You also have to understand this. So, there had better not be any errors of commission or omission that were or could have been forseeable. I don t regard my having a chance to skim something as an adequate examination of it. I have already told you this in various ways, including on our last meeting, when I told you that the time available to me permitted only an appraisal of the content of what you had given me, not what was not in it. This Stanton thing, which I feel you do not yet really understand, is but one example. The other letters are both part of this and more. I don't think you will have put this all together as it should have been and could. If you have the understanding, I have not seen in in anything you have on paper, have not heard it in anything you said to me, or my memory is worse than I believe it has become.

I do not expect any response. I don't write for that purpose. Just see to it that there is a belated end to the irreconcilable conflict of which I warned you and well long before Bud moved his office and that the client and justice do not suffer. Harold

Dear Jim, 10/9/72

Sitting and thinking about the conceptual and operational stupidities of the McGovern campaign while awaiting breakfast this morning took me back to my yesterday's letter about the whole manner of the preparation of the habeas corpus petition, the wrongful and unnecessary last-minute rush and the inevitable consequences, which includes overloading you. To this you have added an unintended arrogrance of going into a final typing without a final checking.

In my anger and frustration I was not as explicit as I might have been.

We don't know what, if anything, you will find in all those files that have found their final resting places with the Hanes'. They may have been purged (and all involved are crazy if they have not been), they may not have held what is all that important (I'm without doubt that at least once they did), and the rush with which you will have to go over them may blind you, as they may anyone else, to what they hold.

On the other hand, suppose you find something of real worth in them? You have told me that the final typing of the petition is done and that of hhe memorandum has begun. Why, then, the dropping of the preparation of the petition for this hasty trip? How will you add to the petition once it is completed?

You never came back to me after I wrote you about Stanton, except to ask an affidavit of me, or perhaps to agree when I offered it. So, I don't know how you understand the significance of the omission I caught. All I told you was the obvious and the dramatic. I also told you when you finally wrote Stanton and got that crazy response that that did it. But I'm not at all aure you understand what it did, and I fear you have omitted this from the petition.

You have not learned the full lesson of the incompetence of Bud's unsatisfactory memorandum on Points and Authorities. You were right to get you back up and say "unless" you would quit. You were not right to isolate this in your own thinking, one of the effects of which was to permit that kind of control over everything else. It was the case and it remains the case.

We can't serve the client's interest and that of justice and simultaneously indulge Bud's ego and inflacted self-concepts. Bud lives the fiction that he has a good understanding of the assassinations, particularly King's (I suspect he evaluates it as better than merely good) but the reality is that his understanding of fact is poor. In reality, in kind what is nonexistent is fact. He undertook the defense with the specific commitment to an investigation and then prevented or refused the investigation, except for a few witnesses I was able to interview when I was in Memphis the one time to be with you at the hearing before Judge Williams. There is no nuttiness for which he would not pay, like sending me to Springfield and Quincy at this juncture, but not to Birmingham about two years ago, when all those files were offered to me. But he wanted to send me to Alabama to check the motel registration, as those it makes a dmaned bit of difference if Ray stayed in the motel Huie reported. At this juncture, again. I could go on and one.

He has no time for the lawyers work on this case, but he has time to go to Philadelphia to address a bare hundred students, and then with trash and theft, with an overweening display of the sickest kind of ego and incredible personal dishonesty. With Sprague, yet.

You know a hell of a lot more of the fact than he does or ever will. But you don't begin to know enough and there is too much for you to put together the way you have been forced to, have tried to, or both.

There is only one way we can overcome the liabilities of Bud's persisting negligence, and that is by taking all the time that might be required now. After all, this move in federal court is the thing we have pointed for, the thing he himself saw, for two years. Then there is no excuse for a last-minute rush and less for any adverse consequences. There was no excuse for the delay in beginning this work after I came back from the early May trip, late as that already was and there was even less excuse for doing it without having a planning session that included me. The reason is Bud's ego, the pretense he wants