Dear Jim, 8/16/72

Your letter of the 14th did come. As I told you, I'm not going to loook at another damned draft of the petition until you've gotten and gone over all my suggestions are criticisms and have put in and taken out everything you plan. When you have all these things done I'll go over it again. While in general I approve brevity, I an inclined not to at the cost of content if that content is necessary.

As I drove home yesterday, I felt increasingly good about Bud so simple it becomes brilliant "clock stopper". It may be the ideal way. I feel praticularly good because I urged this earlier for other reasons and was disregarded. Had I been heeded, it would now be unavailable. The timing is perfect now. I don't see how he can be refused on a pauper's oath, and don't forget his debt to Foreman alone is about $155,000 under the amended contract

I tried to call you earlier but you were not home. It is a time of the day when, if you'd gone to the office, you'd probably have left for May, so I'll try to remember to phone later, when this can be an aide memoire or, if I don't get you, will mail it. But I have to be in Bethesda unexpectdly Friday afternoon and if you want to get together before then I have no other plans for DC earlier in the day and can make it.

I have gone over the other enclosures. Assuming your dating of the Bud typed questions and Jimmy's answer to be their first meeting, then this has to be prior to Jimmy's seeing of my book and is completely independent, therefore more probative. We should go over about all these things at some time in terms of his dependability, which I regard then as augmenting, and some in particular because they are exactly what he told me so much later or, he made it up very early and remembered or it is truth. I believe the latter. Thus confirmations for example, that Hanes also planned to cop a deal and was offered a much lighter one that Foreman got. I do feel we should have an affidavit from Hanes on this and that it is of urgent importance in several areas of the (as I know it)petition, on the judge and on Foreman and as confirming James. I think we can do this by phone and I'd like to be with you when you do it. I kind of think Foreman's treatment of him would tend to make Hanes agreeable. If he nixes, all that is lost is the cost of a phone call. You could then ask him for other records. I'd make a trip to-town for this any day except Wed 23, when I can't.

What is particularly fascinating is the exhibit clerkss note of 10/9/68 and in ways other than you called to my attention as well as that one. First of all, please tell an ignorant non-lawyer how the hell you can have an exhibit before a hearing or trial? Or if this was an exhibit to a pre-trial hearing, it does not show as such in a trasncript? Even the language is provocative,"evidence which was entered direct into the courts." The last part escapes me, but before a trial, is there "evidence"?And if this relates to a hearing, why the hell wasn't the date of the hearing and the page of the transcript noted? I can't remember anything that would justify as an exhibit a "Brown Envelope". This merely fortifies what I have pressed you all on before: a demand for <u>everything</u> of <u>everybody</u>.

I think we have something to learn from this flash of brilliance of Bud's. It shows that we have to work together personally more than we do and have. I can't think of a single time, for example, despite my annoyance ~~mf~~ at some of what I regard as you ineffeciencies, when you and I have talked about anything and stopped with either a major disagreement of a subsequent dispute. We always work these things out. And the exchange of ideas is really essential. This clock-stopper, for instance. I had many misapprehensions about how to accomplish it, partly misunderstanding, partly legal ignorance. But on the need I was right. I think if I hadn't nagged, it would have been brushed off. I went into the need for this with Bud when you weren't there just before he left for the drive on which it came to him. So, this repeats, when we have exchanges in person we fuel each other.Had I not known Bud's view of the need for or desire for having the petition filed in Nashville, I'D not myself conceived of the need to stop the clock.

Bud agreed to ask Bob to copy the investigative reports provided by Stanton. I think I should go over all of them. This is a reminder. There is no rush, but I think it would be better prior to the completion of the petition, for I may spot some pretty raw stuff in them and, in fact, will besurprized if I do not. You can decide on their relevance, but without doubt they have to be incomplete as well as inadequate. We do have as a standard of comparison what I, one man and a stranger, with other things to do, did part-time and in less than a week. Best, HM