

Harold,  
Sunday

I am going to respond to your letter in a temperate manner, although I am seething inside.

@ To begin with, let me go back over the question of removing all your books from the study. I must confess that I do not recall when I packed them up and removed them to the cellar. I do know that in conversations with Clay he would occasionally bring up the fact that you had asked this of me and I had still not responded. In short, what I am saying is those were your instructions: take what I wanted and remove the rest to provide room on the shelves for other things you had in mind.

I insist that when Clay comes you ask him about his recollections about this matter. You might even ask Katie what she remembers.

Had I misinterpreted your request the books remained in the cellar. All you needed to do was to correct this situation was to have me return them to the study. Did this never occur to you? When Clay packed up the bulk of these and mailed them home were you oblivious to this? Here was another opportunity to "correct" my mistake.

What is at work here is your selective and self-justifying memory after the fact. There came a time when you realized you had made a mistake and you looked for a scapgoat.

An addendum to this issue which I thought we had clarified but, alas, probably not, is your persistent belief that some of the books on the assassination were placed on sale at the Hood Library. I thought I had eased your mind on this but apparently not. The fact: Clay took a single book of the books from the basement and donated them to the Library. That is my understanding; you may want to check with Clay next week on this. Once donated, the Library decides on what to do with them. It may well have added them to a book sale. But as I told you as soon as I heard about this from Jan Samit, which reached her via a Sunday phone call from you to the front desk at the Library accusing the Library of selling your books, I checked the stock immediately. What was collected in that section of history and political science, as I have told you repeatedly, was Manchester's gossipy "Death of a President," and Lane's "A Citizen's Dissent." Please ask Clay what book he saw that had your name in it. This was never clear to me.

I never brought this up to you before because I appreciate under your perilous circumstances the mind can play tricks. But prodded I had no choice but to lay this out and get some resolution. Once again, I insist you raise this with Clay when he comes next week.

@ As to the Ray Evidentiary Hearings and your concern about Waketh (Epilogue 2). To begin with I asked Clay last Saturday about whether he sent a copy of this manuscript. He will tell me if something special, that is, not documents that are automatically returned to the Archive, is in a shipment and will usually identify same on the box. In any case, when I asked him about "Waketh" he said he never sent a copy in the time frame you are insisting upon. So naturally, I was at a loss about how "Waketh" and the reprinted Hearings were connected. Could it be

you have confabulated this whole thing? For whatever reasons only you best know you have linked the Hearings with "Waketh." I am trying to explain to you that I was totally puzzled about this and for good reason. 1. Clay never sent a copy in the time frame that it could be mixed in with the Hearings. 2. Despite what your claim in your letter, you never informed me about its imminent arrival. How could you, according to Clay this ms was not in transit. Do you think you confused "Waketh" with "Specter v. Specter" which was in the mails? Of course I was confused. I still have no idea how you associated the two things.

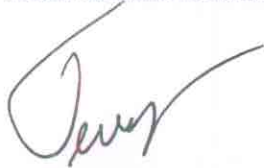
In graph 4 on page one you state "... that the pages of the copies seemed to start several times." I was referring to "Specter v. Specter." This I received as a separate package which is the way Clay does business and does not incorporate them in boxes with documents unless he tells me he has identified the item as such. "Specter v. Specter" was the subject at hand not "Waketh." I did a quick scan to see if the package contained your rough draft, which was what you were fussing about at the time. I did this before I delivered it to you last Monday thinking that speed was of the essence from you phone call. I then, upon your request, e-mailed Clay to get clarification. He told me that the rough draft and the copies from PM, et al, were then in the mail. I received them on Saturday after I spoke to you on the phone. It was then I received your letter. Needless to say I was in no mood then to deliver them. Can you accept the fact that you can get things screwed up? We are all human and subject to error.

Perhaps some day you will explain to me your fixation on Waketh (Epilogue 2). Do you have plans for this re: McKinney's office? That was all I could imagine from the way you intruded it into the whole business of the Ray Hearings.

Perhaps, also, when things cool down, you can explain to me what possessed you to go off on the state of the Ray Hearings. When I received them from Staples the copies were arranged by volume behind each of the originals housed in folders. I took each section out and clipped them together and arranged the McKinney copies beginning with Volume One thru Volume 14 in two small boxes. They are arranged with Volume One on the bottom of the book with Volume two and so on; the same for box two. That I have to write this is demeaning. I choose to use small boxes in the event you needed to move them; there being little room in the study I placed them on the floor out of the way of the copied machine. It is true they were not in folders but they were clasped together. On top of the box I placed a copy of "Whoring with History." In my childish mind, they were ready to be picked up. f'

In replacing the originals in the bottom file drawer I simply stacked them without checking the order of the volumes. But unless I am wrong that was the state they were in when I took them to Staples. If that is what is upsetting you then I will take responsibility.

Lastly, as to the material in the basement, after hearing over and over that I had not cleared the shelves in your study I had little motivation to get into the collection in the basement. I was somewhat gun-shy, feeling that whatever was done would somehow end up being wrong. My suggestion is that when Clay comes you have him go over the manuscripts to satisfy yourself that the job is not bungled. I only ask that you remember that Clay and I had much to do over in the Archives while he is in town.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "James", written in a cursive style.