

Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701  
301/473-8186  
7/9/74

Stein

Dear Bill (or a substitute if you are no longer with Pacifica),

Because I have no record I can find ~~you~~ of your address I'm asking a friend to try and get it and forward this.

Last night I caught only part of an NPR news bit on the arrest of your L.A. manager and Farr's comment that his is worse than the usual situation when the FBI goes after the press.

I have a layman's opinion that this is nonsense and only the nature of the defense can make it true.

You may recall that I have spent most of the past ten years in what amounts to an investigation of the FBI, have taken it to court, to the Supreme Court, and have a collection of FBI reports so extensive there are about 2,000 pages I have not yet had time to read. Some of this can be useful to the defense in your case, if it is an aggressive defense, an attack on the FBI for what it is doing and is trying to do. Without this your man may well wind up a martyr and press freedom will be set back that much more.

Were I in his position, I'd have filed a civil suit for damages by now, if I had to be my own lawyer. The weak rarely survive in cases like this and both an attack rather than a defense and a claim for damages are more than justified.

I have case after case of spurious FBI "investigations" and "interviews" for other than their alleged purposes and impressive statistics - official statistics - to go with them.

In addition, I have something new, totally shocking on just this point, and to now classified "TOP SECRET." I am preparing it for another underground book, in the hope that a young lawyer with whom I work can arrange to borrow the money to print it, about \$5,000. For special reasons I can't go into it and can't permit any use until it is published in context. The part that can be valuable in your case, as I see it having value, is incidental to the use I am making. Were this completed work to be offered in evidence, as I think it could be and be admitted, it would blow minds. If you doubt this, send some Pacifica reporter from the Washington Bureau, with the understanding that this one thing be confidential until I can arrange publication. (The real question here is money. The remaining work can be completed in two weeks.)

Lawyers generally do not like advice from non-lawyers. If your lawyers are unwilling to accept your representation of my work, they can ask the lawyers in the Ray case, in which I did more than the investigation that overturned the FBI, the Department of Justice lawyers and the FBI. Bud Fensterwald's phone is 202/223-1669. Jim Lesar is 202/484-6023. Bud is chief counsel. Jim did most of the legal work.

While I presume that the private phone I pay for is not private, I use it with little inhibition. I say this because others should assume they will be overheard when they speak to me.

I have a notion this could be handled in a way that might get a little Hearst help, although I know nothing of his personal attitude in this case. He has more than a daughter involved.

Best regards,

Harold Weisberg