Dear Jerry, 12/15/76

Thanks for your Xmas card and for thinking to send it. We used to enjoy sending them and my wife kept a long list but for years it has been impossible.

I'm sorry about the Supreme Court. We knew the odds were against it but it had to be done. The court should have gone for Jimmy. It had to be given a chance to and he lost nothing by making the effort. He may have lost much by his course of conduct and his statements prior to it.

You are going to find out, in time, that I have never lied to any one of you. At some point I hope you will come to realize that an inability to trust has been very hurtful to what might have been. You do not understand this now, I'm sure. Each of us is what life makes him. Life's experiences. In some areas this becomes a kind of prison from which there is no escape.

Neither Jimmy nor the rest of you ever really did understand all that was intended by the conditions of Jimmy's capitivity. They also were working on his mind. To a large degree they have succeeded. I'm sorry about it, very sorry, but there is nothing I can do about it. This, I am sure, is responsible for much of what Jimmy has done that was hurtful to himself. Including what he has been up to recently. I know more about this than I've taken time to tell you. Remember I did invite you to start your vacation here before its time was changed to when I had to be away. You still could have come after I returned. But if you are unwilling to believe then that time also would have been wasted. Jimmy is dealing with bad people and is trusting the wrong people. I can8t take any more time to try to get him to see it. He is no longer capable of seeing what he does not want to. If it is understandable that he feels desparate this does not change realities.

He has strange ideas about the new committee and believing himself Perry Mason, as I've said, did foolish things with them. They really are out to get him for political reasons. I can show you this from what went8 on at committee meetings, where they all lied about Jimmy and the evidence against him. They gave the straight prosecution line only they made up lies to s8engthen it. Whether he can't any longer tell the difference or doesn't remember it or has some emotional drive that requires it Jimmy simply has not been truthful about some matters. One is the excuse he made up to be a big-shot and write that committee a letter. They must have laughed all the way to the bank on that one. It also gives them an accurate reading on Jimmy and how they can work around him as others, like Hanes and Foreman did. Jimmy even paid no attention when I told him what was going on inside the committee's meetings. I told him the truth. My sources were the best. Now I have some of it in black and white.

I'm taking this time now so the family at least can understand if it wants to. I have always been open with you and I am sure you do realize this. I invited you here to read Frame-Up before it was printed, as you know, and I asked nothing of you in return. The same on coming here to see what else I have developed and what I am working on. This is the state of Jimmy's mind today and he does make things up to give him "explanations" he wants to believe. Like when he told you that Bud ran Jim and me. He knew better but he just would not let himself recognize it. I did tell Jimmy what he had to know and he did know the state of our relationships and what it meant or could mean to him and what he could do about it if he wanted to. (Why he never fied Bob, for example, Ill. never be able to understand. Bob says to get his name in the papers that Jimmy should tell all and Jimmy write the sixth circuit a letter praising bob to the skies - but never actually firing him. So Bob has been going around telling people he is still counsel of record. I sent Jim proof of this from one of my Memphis sources. Now Bob has made the same statement, still represented as Jimmy's lawyer. So you have the people believing that Jimmy's own lawyer believes Jimmy is guilty and should confess. You make snese of it, I can't.

The situation is bad but it is not hopeless, which is one of the reasons I take time to write now when I should be doing other things, particularly when I got farthur behind from the tendon trouble in my right arm. It is not all better yet. I'd like you to succeed, not to relive the same mistakes. For my part I will continue to investigate and to develop

what I can in the hope the time will come when it can be used. Doing this with Jimmy's opposition and the rest of you going along with it is a bit much under any circumstances, more under mine of this time. You will find that I have represented this work and its fruit to you honestly and fairly and maybe in time you will come to learn that some of what Jimmy has done and has not done reduced the potential of it. Once we saw what McRae was we started back on what I had begun in 1969. As I've told you, you are welcome to see what I am getting. As time goes one, and I do not think it now will be a long time, I will have much put together. Jim and I are winning this in court. That is why the DJ's man on the committee and now the DJ itself wants to speak to Jimmy, to get from him what can turn this around. He has no way of knowing what they will be driving at with some of their questions or what they can and will use it for. Jim and I have even made the FBI give us their index to the case against him that they gave Canale. I have it now, in notebooks. It is so large it takes up 8 large notebooks, sevel holding up to 3 inches, and 1 ordinary sized one. Going along with this I have over a thousand of their records now and I will be getting more, supposedly not less than 400 pages a week. I have told Jimmy this but nothing makes any difference to him now. From these records I can tell you much. One minor example is what Jimmy would not believe when I tried to tell him years ago in an effort to get him to be helpful in ways that were possible and he pretended were not. There were prints left behind other than his and the FBI knows whose they are in some cases. I now have the proof of how they worked around this on the only lead Jimmy ever gave me. I did work on it as soon as he told me. They are uptight over Mississippi, where he was there. Another is his use of the name Lowmeyer. They had a really big investigation of that and it was effective. Thousands of hours, many, many agent. They found a Lowmyer who had a criminal record in Los Angeles, one who had been in jail in Illinois, I've forgotten whether Menard or where John is, one in Quincy, which led them in a certain direction, didn t it? and even with the same first name Jimmy used. They were on to the names Ray and Riley long before they let on, from what Jimmy left behind that they picked up. They were able to trace Jimmy pretty fast by the trails he left behind him, including changes of address. by the way, it would be good to know of you wrote him in the period up to as I recall April 10, 1968 because they picked up mail sent to him not all of which has been known publicly. They did talk about the locksmith courses but not about letters. There were letters for him in Atlanta. There are other clues he left behind. They have these letters. I'm just giving you illustrations. I have spent my own money to provide Jim with a set of copies to use in Jimmy's defense. I am doing more: where it requires explanations I am typing them up, as I will with some technical matters as soon as I finish this. There are things I know that Jim does not. I see to it that he knows them. This is not for him or for me, for there is no way we can get any money out of this. But I am telling you the truth when I tell you that while Jimmy is doing all these foolish things that cannot help him and do hurt him I am keeping at developing so strong a case that it can free him, at the same time trying to prevent the whores and those you call pointy-heads from ruining it, as they have been doing and I do mean those Jimmy has gone to bed with regardless of what he tells you. My sources on this are the most dependable and have in every case been proven to be right.

By now you also know that I have and had no interest in Kershaw. I have conducted no investigation of him and do not intend to. You will find that what I have said about him is correct, whether or not you now believe me. I have no interest in him and never have. There are certain things by which you can read lawyers clearly. It is on those that I said what I did. You make a big mistake to pick lawyers on the basis of politics and race. You should remember, however, that when we were travelling together in May of 1972 I was also working on a civil case against Frank, which is the opposite of what Jimmy now says. He said no the day you took me to the St. Louis airport so I laid that work aside then and there. I have always been for those civil suits that served a purpose. You have this way of remembering, you saw me doing some of the work. I mention this because you also know Jimmy says the opposite and I think you should understand him as he is now. On Kershaw as it is with Bud my purpose is to let you see that you people believe things that just are not so. I'm sorry about that but I can8t do anything about it. Hope you have a good holiday, doc.