Dear Jerry,

7/19/80

The tape you make last Sunday came on time but I didn't have time to listen to it until last night. The part about John wasn't entirely clear. That he says the FBI offered him $100,000 if he could help them on the Vernon Jordan job is clear enough. So is ~~to~~ it, too, that they are crazy and desparate to have cooked up the notion that he could, that he was involved of that the job was connected with bank robberies.

I understood that John said something about the throwing away of money that supposedly came from his robbing of the Liberty bank, which doesn't seem to make much sense, but exactly what he said was not clear to me.

I feel sorry for him. I can understand that he just got tired of the rough time they were giving him but he played their game not to have gone back to Dismas house. He had no way of really staying out of trouble without a regular job or an place like Dismas House to which he could go if he was in need. In fact, that is almost what I told the parole board the first time he was up for parole, that if they didn't let him out when he had a job offer and could have a chance of earning an honest living they'd be responsible if when he was older he had to turn to a life of crime. (I'm not saying he did it because I don't know but I could understand his being driven to something like that.)

Under the present circumstances, Mark might be as good a lawyer as John could hope to get. I'd not heard that Mark had opened a New Orleans office. I wouldn't be too surprised if in time he moves there. He used to live there and I think he can make lots of money there because there are some things at which he is very good and for them that is a good place.

Oliver did send me a bunch of clippings and I was glad to get them. Outside of St. Louis there was very little attention to what happened to John. Since then I've heard nothing so I suppose nothing was in the papers. He told me that Jimmy was going to file suit against Webster and Baetz there.

Sorry the air conditioner on your Caddy conked out on you but if it keeps you in that is better in the kind of heat we are all having. Its been over 100 here, too, and I stay in the house as much as I can, except early in the monring and when the sun is low. Better to take no chances, even at your age.

I've heard nothing from Jimmy since I sent him the records he wanted. I've seen nothing more along that line since or I'd have sent them.

Carol gave me John's address but I think it will be better if I wait to hear from him before I write him, and I haven't.

There was a small piece in the papers about Jimmy's appeal being turned down. I suppose the next step it the next-highest court. You say he'll go up on new evidence. What kind of new evidence can he have that can do him any good? Just saying that the FBI doesn't really wear white hats won't do it, I think.

Sincerely,