6/9/71

Dear Gary,

Glad to get your 6 with enclosed carbons. We spent tye day in DC today, the entire morning at the clinic, where Lil's favorite ortho. surogon fitted her in after X-raying, etc., and as I'd indicated earlier, we seem to be lucky. No breaks. I say the film. While both sides of the cap seem to be distented, one is way, way out. The puffing is still great, but she began walking on crutches a bit and, for her, did remarkably well. She has awlays been awkward on crutches. Despite the encouragement, I expect to remain close to her except when someone else is here. I saw the "mouse" in that kneo, an extra bruoth she has had all her life. Ocasionally it causes the knee to quit. It frightened me several times when I first knew Lil. So, the 20" grass may get to 30" before I can mow it.

Glad to get the rundown on Med. I had wondered at his seeming undependability in the light of the things you'd said. I haven't read the letter yet. Lil told me of the first ' graph as we drove to town.

On Shaw: I doubt he'd ever trust me, but if he knew LHO there is meaning in things LHO did and not of a conspiratorial nature re assassination. It can mean they played with each other or it cann mean something else entirely. The latter possibility if the likely reason he'll not talk. But is this consistent with his filing suit? As you know, I never cast Shaw in the JG role. Thenm there is the question, could I trust Shaw were we to be able to meet. It is just this that has been in the back of my (writing) mind for some time. But, immediately, I'll have to put it on a court preparation for next week, when I'M to be my own lawyer. I'll come back to that afterward. Did Jackie identify the Shaw friend? Some of them are of other interests to me. Let me add several thing you may not recall. First, there is independent evidence of the existence of a man known as Clay Bertrand and at one of CS's hangouts. Second, Dean Andrews told me that is JG got past the defect of including LHO as a conspirator, he was "home clear". He, certaibly, knew Clay B.

On Jim there was no choice. He knew in advance this was coming. I had gone into it on a number of occasions, with other aspects, and on this, after I went over the shit they had done, he was sick, sicker when they wouldn't budge the next day when he went over it with them. As a matter of real fact, the sacrifice was mine, aside from the waste of what I had set up and the time it took. I have to give up a meeting with an influential black who had been turned on by another Congressman to forestall this potential disaster, and it hurt and it interfered with the relationship I hadnestablished. Matter of fact, that member has a new administrativeassistant and I discussed it in detail todayz from Bud's phone and in Bud's presence so that an explanation would be made. Bud was silent.

Perhaps there has not been enough time for Ebony. Het did nothing. Lil fell when a writer from Sepia was here. It is not that somethin is "about" to break as much as that it is being worked on with some promise. The NYTimes may have killed it.

If Hal doesn't get to answer by the time you are there, his phone should be in by now.

Your letter to Paul reflects two misconceptions. I did not let go at Jim, not in any sense. It was at the CTIA, and he knew and knows I separate him from them. He was in the middle, which is bad enough, but not the butt of any of it. I long ago warned him of this. And the CTIA had nothing to do with getting Ray as Bud's client or in any other way save through Bud's lies and propaganda. I did that, and they neither did nor can do any invest i-gation. What Bud put out is pure crap. It took me a year (and Bud stuck me for the costs and didn't keep our agreement)....Jerry told me by phone of your letter. Hope your 17 speech goes well....Jerry has been doing great things. I'm glad for him that schoolis over, for I fear that he'd have let that slide for me...The knives are sharpening for JG.

Have a good trip,