

3/27/71

Dear Gary,

I write because I'm too on edge to read, too tired to trust myself with serious letter-writing, of which much has backed up, and because it may serve a purpose. I'll have tapes of both Bandy shows. In fact, I'll have three sets. One made in the studios during the taping by a friend of whom I'd asked it, one made off the air as it was broadcast, and made in the studio as the second was being taped. These are not of good quality, for my friend had to improvise, with a regular cassette recorder under his jacket and the mike hidden in his sleeve. These were for protection only and are not of good quality. The station has promised sound tapes of what is and was aired, and I have asked for the unediteds, which is up to the lawyers. With the latter, I'll keep my word and will not distribute unless they agree to research use only.

The cost of pulling that second one out of the fire was great, physically, emotionally and financially. I went to NYC with less money than required to bring me back, and I ate only when others paid for it (here Jerry was great). All I could get Metromedia to do was pay the hotel bill, so I had good 75¢ breakfasts for which they paid \$3.00, things like that. But, I pulled what would have been a disastrous one out of the fire. I won a hard fight with the odds against me, having to overcome Metros lawyers without any direct contact with them, which was not easy; fight my publishers, who would not go for a press conference Monday if the thing turned out to be the predictable bad (and I had arranged enough in advance to make it not a failure, without consulting them, and might have improvised auspicious). I was ready to call it for the front of their entrance, and I so told them. I told them (truthfully) that I had other shows arranged for the future, and would give them full attention-and I would have. And I held for the prospect of black resentment, genuine or inspired, and I minced no words on whether I'd inspire it. I would have. So, if I did okay, these, worry and fatigue, plus a bit of discomfort from a sprained foot, and the feeling that when they overcame their legit fear of Big Brother plus Broken Wind, I did owe them something, I still did less than I could have. Some of it I just blew under pressure, some from bad judgement, like my close, which was okay, but a much more effective one should have occurred (I had expected uses you can't anticipate and I can't go into now, but there is one person in particular I want to play that to)...If they promo the show, the first printing will be sold out by next weekend and I know of no plans for a second. I'm in fine hands! To date they have done nothing but print. Jerry and I did all the p.r., and it serves no purpose to tell them. They haven't even advanced or offered to pay back my slight expenses-for two trips to NYC and all the travel and other costs, about \$150 for seven days, 225 miles of driving, \$60 train, etc., and this even includes the cost of reusable pictures and stats....I've heard nothing ~~KKKK~~ from Sotobeer, but I assume he has tried...There is nothing to keep you and Ned from using the tapes made from the air, so, if you think you want them, I'll try and bud as fast as I can, or have them dubbed from the original and mailed from NYC, where the fine boy has them...It is hard to believe that in two years no single organization, black or white, has been willing to hear a talk on the King assassination. But again I ask that you joggle your legal-investigator friends, for a reaction from them would be useful in attracting interest by others. Or have they set their plans for this year's convention already?...Charlotte was here last night, and I was up with her to 2 a.m. She has not told me all, but she has begun to. She'll be back for a social visit tomorrow. She trusted me as a kid, and it is I who talked to her about sex, not her parents, and maybe I'll be able to do something. She has a tough one. I suppose she has written you. If you suggest an MMPI, I'll see to it that it is done promptly. She is a good girl, worth helping, and I'd like to, as I'd like this to be as little burden as possible to you. I'll ask her assent for you to tell me what you tell her or you tell her to take it up with me, if you think it okay. We neither have the time, but she is Lil's cousin's daughter. If you recommend an MMPI for her separated husband, let me know. He is not bad, just spoiled, dominated (mother) and irresponsible and without any ambition. He blew the money that could have put her through college on a truck with which he failed and he then lost it. He is a personable nothing and has known no other man. Thanks,