Dear Dave, 4/27/98

We enjoyed the visit of Gerry and Neichter very much. Gerry left shortly after your call, Bill something after 6, and both were loaded. What they have includes the 14 transcripts of the Ray evidentiary hearing that Jim and I prepared for. I think it was in 1974. Jerry now has that, too. And a selection of other records on both cases.

On the way to lunch at Nana's yesterday I mailed you the first nine chapters of what I am writing about Posner and his book. Maybe Sunday mailing may speed things up?

What I can do nothing about is becoming more apparent: there has been considerable thievery and much of what cannot be found now is what could be embarrassing to the FBI. I can't pinpoint when it disappeared because for so long I have not been able to reach those files. The disappearances extend to the King case, the Ray files, and in doing a bit of searching for me yesterday Neichter found the file folders empty. I was not wrong in remembering that I had the file(s) because the empty folder establishes that.

If the original copies remain in the records that I preserved as I got them, they are not now accessible for me. But I've not asked anybody to go to that trouble.

These disappearances extend to my administrative appeals. I have a clear recollection of the appeal I filed when the FBI did not provide the interview report of Charles Stephens when it showed him the picture of Ray taken when he was at the Los Angeles bartending school. You may recall that CBS filed him that day, I think 4.18/68, and Stephens said "not the guy." The FBI Memphis gave me a reference to his telling it that, not in thos words, but denies it had the interview report, any obvious lie. I did file an appeal and Bill and Gerry say it is not in the appeals files.

For my immediate purposes, using it in what I'm writing, I have pretty much that in a newspaper story so I can cite that.

Some time ago there was a change in the channel on which my office cordless phone is set. I have never bothered to learn how to set the channels because the one that it was on when made was fine. When I commented over the phone that the channel had been changed from 8 to 9 and I had not done that, after another short absence, when I used the phome again it was back on 8. But the ring and the volume have been different since then. But if the phone was tapped, knowing when to come and not get caught would have been no problem.

I doubt that you have a copy of one of the missing items I want very much to have, my interview with Richard Ryan, who had been a Ray lawyer. Best, Harold