

12/4/72

Dear Jim,

I waited until after 11 to call Paul Valentine to let him know that you plan to file the habeas corpus petition today. He was not in. I spoke to Dick Harwood. He told me that Paul told him there is "nothing new" in them. I was, of course, surprised, for even if he considers what is in Frame-Up as what the Post or other papers have printed as old stuff, there remains much that is "new" and by normal news standards is news.

My instinctive reactio was to say what I did, "That's bullshit."

Dick replied "That's what he says."

I said, "Want me to tell you one thing new?". He said "No." I asked him to ask Paul to return the papers because we had no funds. He said to ask him. I told him Paul was not in, that's why I had phoned him. He said "He'll be in tomorrow."

My original arrangement with Paul is that he'd copy or have copies made and return that set to me so I'd have an extra press set if any interest developed. He has not done this, nor has he phoned me. There has been ample time for both.

I did not anticipate that the Post would lust for such a story, but I did feel that Paul would see the news in these papers and would at least suggest the existence of news.

After speaking to Harwood I phoned Warren Weaver at the NYTimes. He was not in and did not answer his phone at the Supreme Court. I left a message with his desk to the effect that it was planned that the papers would be filed today. I also left my phone number. The man to whom I spoke is named, as I recall, Sheppard.

I'd call the TV nets, but there has been no provision for this and I can't afford it. So, I am not.

As you know, I sent Bagdikian a copy of my last letter to Rife. I have heard nothing from him. I have two sheafs of papers from John, one on McMillan and one relating to the Goldie part of his case. My answer is with this.

Best,