

Dear Dave, Please read this first

1/22/78

There have been many demands on my time for me to have been able to sit down and think things through. However, I am confident of the point I have reached in my thinking and that it means the time has come for you to make a special and a different kind of effort with the chancellor.

It will be some time before we can more fully evaluate the force, effect and impact of the Mesell decision. It may be the result of some special judicial efforts. Jim and I are not certain on this but the odds are that we'll have a kind of evaluation soon.

I am and have been at the point where I can break the King case open with the right kind of attention. Nothing new in this, not for more than a year. Besides Jim only Les Payne has seen any of the stuff. It blew his mind.

Jim and I would like to be able to involve Howard in this.

I have written Howard making a general inquiry. He has not had time to respond.

Involving him means a different situation for him than for me. He is a young man at the beginning of an extraordinarily promising career. He can't live and work as I do. He also can perform as he is capable of performing if he has any such situation.

The political situation is one in which there is a fairly good shot at forcing the government to use what I'll produce-sooner and better with Howard working on it with me.

The situation also is one in which if the executive doesn't there are good shots with the Congress. Or the situation, which may not look like it because of my public silence, is quite promising. My public silence will continue.

With the new releases and what I can be certain without having seen them is true of them we now have a similar situation with regard to the JFK assassination. Here Howard can be even more important because of his independent knowledge of the facts.

With both cases but more with JFK it would be ideal if Howard were in association with Jim in the legal aspects also. He is already an executor of my estate with Jim and fully powered with Jim to pursue all the FOIA matters I've initiated. (They could wind up as partners in a law firm, which would be great for both of them, with at least one specialty that holds promise for them.)

While there is a broader aspect for which I'll try to find time in the future, the immediate is that we need support for Howard if he is willing. This means taking Dreyfus up on his offer to approach any foundation I suggest. I suggest Stewart Mott as a beginning. It would not require any great briefing of Dreyfus. And I know he is involved in a political campaign. It was.

My belief is that in time the thing would actually make a profit for the foundation.

But what a sensational record - beginning - for it!

Jesse Jackson's Republican appearance makes me more confident of the possibilities with Bell and the administration.

Jim is getting like I have been- unable to keep it all in mind. But the notes I went over last night remind me of the positiveness of the proofs I have. Their unique nature. And what they mean of the DJ and FBI deliberateness is this. It is with the DJ part that we have a real handle on the DJ and the AG, to whom I think we'll be able to get. Jim and I have been discussing a modest first effort. If that does not work I think I can do it with less modesty, less indirection, much more force. It I have to I will.

Here we have some reason for depending on the accuracy of one of their petards- the one that got them to hire me as their consultant. What a switch! But it makes it quite safe for the top DJ people, the only one who count. They can become purified by it. They would have a few sacrificial goats. I mean the stinking kind only. (Did you know this comes from urinating and ejaculating on their forelegs? Appropriate?)

If Jim and I have to do it alone we can and I think we will. We can do it sooner and better with Howard- and we can do much more of it - and it would be quite a coup for UWSP and the foundation and scholarship status in history and pol.sci.

Please try to find time to talk to Jim about this. I'm not outlining all I have in mind, as I'll explain, but carrying the FOIA matters forward, the potential of the withholding in the JFK case in particular, regardless of the judges we get, is really fantastic. You can evaluate my seriousness when I tell you it has been costing me at the rate of \$75 an hour to write you. This is what they are to pay me. Hastily,