

2/1/70

Dear Dick,

Howard has been here since Friday, going over what he wanted to see. He delayed going over my Archives files, as I had suggested in a letter that had not reached him by the time he left, and now, fascinated by it, is sorry he will not be able to finish that before he leaves in the a.m. So am I, because he is tabulating it as he goes. I'll need this for the suit, possibly as an exhibit in it, and to tell me what I've asked for that I haven't gotten, what I will appeal to get, etc.

I should have written you sooner and told you not to send any more ~~cigars~~ cigars. About a week ago my throat and tongue began to feel irritated, and I attributed this to the cigars, so I decided to switch back to cigarettes and taper off. I had already begun this when I felt a sore on the back of my tongue yesterday. With the impetus of fright, I have held myself to but five cigarettes today, and it is now after 10 p.m. Were my nerves not in bad shape, I'd have held it down more. I know in the past when I tried to cold turkey it I had a bad reaction the doctor said was not surprising, perhaps a chemical one. Several months ago, when I sought a psychiatric consultation because of the anxiety, I raised the question, for I feel I should stop and so felt then, but the shrink said it would be bad and would make me impossible to live with.

When you are scared it is not as hard.

I typed brief notes on the Bishop (ugh!) book today, but did not have as many copies as I'd have liked. I'm giving one-ave-to Howard. He'll share it with you. I restricted myself to what I regard as the more reasonable possibilities of good leads from those who would and did speak to him and would not to us. I think you'll understand why I made the note in each case. It may lead to nothing, but I do intend to use it as the basis of further inquiry.

I do not know how much you have read between recent lines. It you can recall a file I showed you when you were here, one of the things that has concerned me with John, where an eminence who has been surprisingly silent in all of this, considering his rank and function, had added certain things, I have the perfect companion and have for some time. Could not be more explicit.

With luck some N.O. transcripts are to be sent me this coming week. When I get them, I'll let you know which, in case you want any. I'm told no Shaneyfelt.

Best,