

6/25/70

Mr. Ramsey Clark
1775 K. St., NW
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Clark,

When you were Attorney General and I wrote you, you did not respond, which is no surprise, for there is little likelihood the letter reached you and less that you had time to handle most of the letters addressed to you. When I did get answers from your subordinates, however, they lied, unabashedly. In this they had no monopoly, for the successor administration in that Department has converted the lie into basic policy.

From the time you took what I regard as a proper and forward-looking position on the demonstrations and then became what the young people might regard as an activist in the protection of rights, I have been intending to write you. I have not done so from the feeling that if you know of me you might find my letter unwelcome and if you do not you would likely consider me some kind of nut, for my recent writing has been about the assassinations and you have taken your own position on them.

Yesterday's action by the Department of Justice in releasing what I had obtained by filing an action under 5 U.S.C. 552 is what prompts this letter. I have my own reasons for believing it may well be part of an effort to hurt you, for you were Attorney General at the time that business started. I have little doubt it was not intended for my benefit. And they are well aware of the fact that I am preparing new complaints. One of these will deal with something that happened under your administration and others will, involve non-compliance with an executive order you signed. While this non-compliance has continued, it began when you headed the Department of Justice. I have no reason to believe you were aware of it or desired it, but it is a fact. My own opinion is that major responsibility is Mr. Hoover's.

There is no doubt in my mind about the facts involved and little about the applicability of the law. I think it unlikely that you had any personal knowledge of these matters and, as happens in government, took the word of subordinates you felt you had no reason not to trust. What I have and am prepared to show you, in confidence, bears very much on whether or not, if you placed such trust in subordinates, they were worthy of it. It seems likely to me that, when this matter is in court, the present administration will be seriously embarrassed and may seek to make you the goat.

In any event, I will want to call you as a witness. I think your interest, mine, and that of the country may well be served if we can discuss these matters some time at your convenience. I hope you will agree.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg