

Dear Bob,

6/3/81

It was very kind and thoughtful of you to offer to help with my medical bills. I'm happy to report that there is no present financial emergency and I hope there is none. I had a fairly good report from the surgeon today when I was back for the regular check.

I didn't get to see Jack Gordon when he was down at Bud's so I don't know what he knew. The leg was only the manifestation. There was a complete circulatory blockage on the left side 4/4. I was in the hospital until 5/7 then. (Just learned today that the bills have not yet been filed with Medicare, they are that busy.) Fortunately, the chief surgeon at my earlier surgeries was available that night and he made an instant and correct diagnosis when there was no time for tests. It was nip and tuck, I was told afterward, until they finished up at about 2:30 a.m.

In September I had a plastic artery placed in the left thigh, torso to knee and it went off fine. Only the day I left the hospital then blood clots broke loose and by the time I could get back and be operated on there was damage to the vessels and from oxygen starvation. So I've been rather limited in what I can do since then.

There was venous thrombosis in both legs and thighs in 10/75, with permanent damage, but I made out rather well despite it.

I don't know what all the medical expenses have been and don't know whether all of what is unpaid is covered. I know that the hospital is paid for last years and that I've paid what Blue Cross after Medicare didn't. That was something like \$16,000!!!! The surgeons and what goes with them came to something like \$4,000 but Medicare and Blue Cross have lost these bills and have ignored the duplicates ifiled since then.

I'm hoping that there will be little left for me to pay but I don't know.

Where I can always use help and never get it is in the legal work and what it entails. I just heard from Jim Mesar, my lawyer, that the overdue xeroxing bills alone come to close to \$1,000. And these are only the unpaid ones that are overdue. The amount of paper we've had to file is incredible, and so many copies are required! I have no idea how many thousands I've spent in these endeavors, which really are not for me, but it is so far up in the thousands that I look back in wonder and amazement, unable to tell myself where and how I got the money when I had no regular income and no nest egg. (Now I have luxury - Social Security of \$231 a month!)

In your note at the bottom of what you sent Tip O'Neill about the Gardner story you say, "having ignored Blakely it is odd that you should be in the 'news'..." Where did you get the idea that I ignored him? Why do you think he lost control of himself when Gardner mentioned my name - because I ignored him? I'm responsible for most of the major published criticisms of Blakely and the committee during its life. I am responsible for the story because when I learned that Allen had gotten that letter I spoke to Gardner. So Blakely knows I have not ignored him.

Didn't you notice that he didn't once mention my name or my work, ever? Why do you think? Only because he wanted to avoid fighting with me to the degree he could.

And I'm not finished yet, I hope! I've the writing yet to do, and I plan it.

We really do appreciate your offer of help with the medical bills. I hope the time when I need help doesn't come but if it does, I'll write you. I am more concerned about the lost surgeons' bills because they are for the period before expanded Blue Cross coverage was available here. Since the first of the year I do have that and I'm hoping it takes up all the slack. It even helps with medicines, and man do I have them to take and do they accumulate in cost! I've six or eight and I take from four to six of them daily. Now for every 100 I have to pay only \$3.00. Blue Cross pays the rest, meaning most.

If you've spoken to Emory Brown since he was here you have an idea of the extent of what I've done.

Again thanks and best wishes,

CUTLER DESIGNS

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MESSAGE

REPLY

TO Hon Thomas P O'Neill, jr  
The Speaker's Rooms  
U S House of Representatives  
Washington DC  
20515

DATE

DATE V/27/81

Mr Speaker :

during the hectic Henry-Gonzalez-Chairman-or-not days of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, HSCA, you kindly responded to all my bewildered pleas for sanity ... once again your position leaves me no alternative but to plead for fair play directly to The Speaker ....

no one can properly research and respond to HSCA's final report ... Counsel G Robert Blakey saw to it that HSCA's records, referred to in notes galore, were treated as any other Committee's which omits specific direction: lock 'em up for 50 years ... Blakey has demeaned President Kennedy, Dr King, the House, Notre Dame University Law School (where he currently teaches), the Law and anyone who can read a newspaper with his arms-oriented, guttersnipe reaction to Harold Weisberg's assertion of Coverup\* ... Blakey's "professorial" attitude speaks volumes for Weisberg's logic ...

please initiate action for a full House vote on the common-sense release of HSCA data we all need ... this House surely will not deny the full investigation its predecessor voted and this time it appears the Washington Post will be more helpful .... good luck and thank you .... sincerely

\* George Hardner piece in today's Boston Globe

SIGNED

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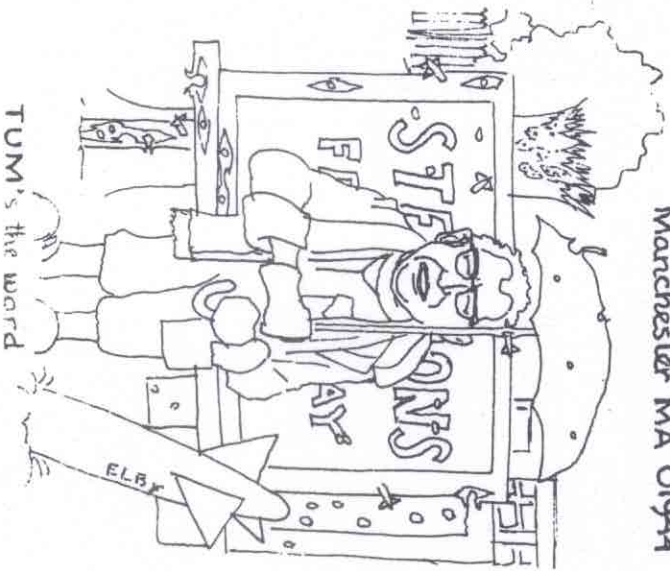
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Harold -

I know you need no help whatsoever - having ignored Blakey it is sad that you should be in the "news" - I simply could not let that go by - Jack Gordon tells me bad news of your leg - may I offer any financial assistance - my condolences or whatever it is that I'm feeling come with this note - how miserable it is to only be able to say "how sorry I am" - I guess that's what I am - a sorry one not to be able to write more - cherio  
would it help to help with Drs or hospital bills direct to them?

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Harold Weisberg

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