

7/31/93

Dear Dave,

Whether or not it was intended as a needle for any of Virginia's surviving enemies, I love that "in the pink" which is otherwise appropriate in any ^{of} ~~any~~ ^{of these} ~~of these~~.

Apparently I made enough of the address out correctly when I wrote her. But on the day itself we'll appreciate your adding our congratulations to the many she served so well.

I disagree with you on Henry Hurt's book. The first half is a good recap of what had been published. It was a worthwhile service to those not familiar with that. But the second half is terrible, his indulgence of political preconceptions that had and have no basis in fact. Perhaps the worst of those things he took out on my ridicul~~e~~ of it.

I'm sorry about that, too. I liked Henry and took an extraordinary amount of time, going over each and every page save the Easterling rubbish that he kept secret, to the damage of his reputation, and in writing it at great length. And I asked for nothing from him. He did send me a nice Xmas gift, though.

I have heard nothing from Jean Hill. If she had wanted to she would have been in touch. Leave her in peace, but thanks.

What pleases me much is that Hood has recognized Lil's indispensibility in what I did and is giving us both doctorates in the humanities on the 22d.

Along with a number of real stinkers this country has produced some truly fine people.

There can not have been many any better than ~~Cliff~~ Cliff and Virginia.

They did nothing but good and that when others feared to- and at considerable personal cost. I do, ^{not} know of even once either compromised on principle. And I can't think of a President of whom that is true!

They gave of themselves, they helped and they fought for others.

Can you think of anything more traditionally American than their records?

Virginia is one of the last of that caring, trying group of us of those days. I hope she is around for many more years for people to talk to, to learn from, to let them know by precept and by merely being here! And to enjoy her family and so much else she could not enjoy when that was the good fortune of those less principled, less caring, less determined to try.

She has more than earned every blessing life can hold. May she be here to enjoy them for ~~ann~~ many more year, I hope without pain, with the best of health possible for her many years.

Again thanks,

Harold

868 Chelsea Lane
Westerville, Ohio 43081-2716
July 29, 1993

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Maryland 21702

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I am enclosing a copy of the invitation I received last week to Virginia Durr's 90th birthday anniversary party at Vineyard Haven. I thought you might enjoy seeing it. I included your greetings in a "reminiscences" page those attending were asked to write for a book that apparently will be given to her. Ann Lyon's (her daughter) secretary said that over 700 were invited! I will be taking my oldest son, Chris, on Friday night the 6th, driving down to New Bedford that evening, then taking the ferry across on Saturday morning. I consider this a great honor and opportunity. Thank you for introducing me to her through her book. If I get a chance to see her at the gathering I will personally pass along your greetings.

Dr. Wrone is apparently requiring her book for reading in his class. We had a nice conversation by phone before I called you a couple of weeks ago.

I am just finishing Frame Up. I have not heard back from James Earl Ray yet about the possibility of my seeing him when I am in Nashville November 19-22. I realize there may be nothing new to learn from him, but when I can I try to gain a better understanding of issues and events by talking to the people directly involved.

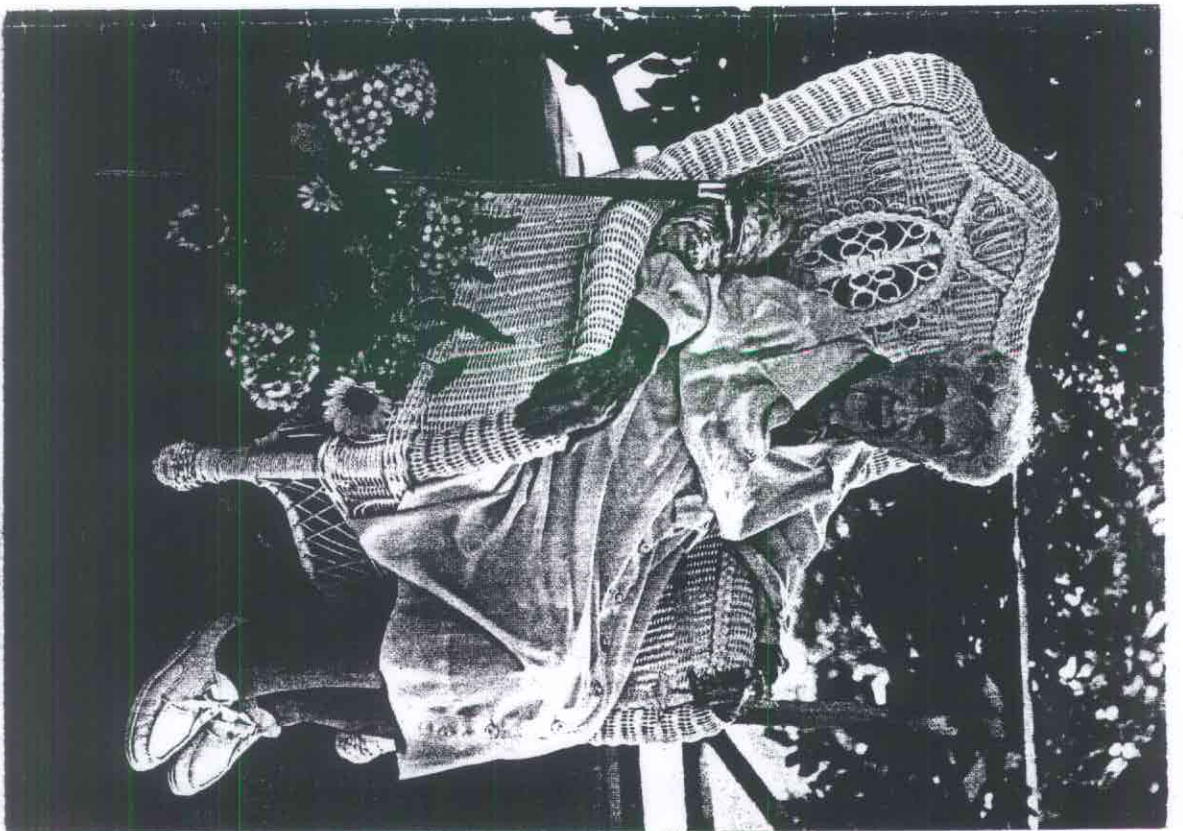
I am finishing also Henry Hurt's book. It is at least written competently and does not, in my view, overstate what is not or cannot be known with certainty. As I am sure you are aware, he speaks highly of you and your work in his book and stays away from personal attacks on others.

I wrote to Jean Hill asking her again to forward her Livingstone comments along to you. I hope she finds and takes the time to do that. Thanks again. Hope this finds you well and happy. Sincerely,

Dave Keck

I understand you're getting an honorary degree from Hood College. Well deserved! Congratulations!

Photograph of Virginia Foster Durr
from the series "Vineyard Portraits"
by Trina von Rosenvinge Sobolka
Marika's Vineyard and Washington, DC



12 p.m. showing of the film

THE DREAM IS JUSTICE:

A PORTRAIT OF VIRGINIA FOSTER DURR

Capawock Theater in Vineyard Haven

◆ 1 p.m. Lunch and Tributes

Owen Little Way and Main Street

Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts

◆ RSVP card enclosed

◆ In lieu of gifts, contributions may be sent to the
Clifford I. Durr Civil Liberties Lecture Endowment

Auburn University at Montgomery

7300 University Drive

Montgomery, Alabama 36117

*Ninety
and in the
Pink*

Ann, Lucy, Tilla and Lulah
invite you to celebrate the
90th birthday of

*Virginia
Foster
Durr*

Saturday, August 7, 1993

