

1/2/76

Mr. Martin Waldron
New York Times, News Room
229 W 43 st.,
New York, N.Y. 10036

Dear Ho,

Old "hang loose," aka "Maryland chicken farmer," isn't hanging, is loose, and today began three and a ~~skt~~ half months of a more limited life.

Lil's tax work began today. It means that mornings and evenings I'm a chauffeur.

You were talking of coming down after Xmas. Aside from a medical appointment of which the doctor hasn't informed me I know of nothing to take me away before the 15th, when I have a speech to make. Thereafter it is quite possible I'll be too busy to spend much time but I'm willing to try.

With Lil away and soon to be working nights at home, other work falls on me.

Why John decided to become a partisan I don't know. I do feel it will be helpful to him in upward mobility and personal security. I hope it does not bug him to the point where he won't let me have for the defense what he can without ethical problems. (Carbon enclosed.)

Unless I hear otherwise from you I'll assume that these stories represent Times policy and they'll soon have you at the Bay of Fundy at low tide because one of John's dependable sources has told him you'll find Judge Crater in a 1913 Olds if you go to the right place. At low tide, only. If you then need any help there are some old fellows around here who can do wonders making a peach-branch dip at the right spot.

My hunch is that John has done us a favor. There are few criminal lawyers who will read his stuff without knowing there never was a case against Ray and without wondering why there was a fake indictment for the feds to seize a local case three days after the fact. (John argued with me that they had a law to begin with.)

Next time he mentions chickens to you, if he does, tell him that when he gets past his second Pulitzer he'll be in the same class as I was in poultry. (Considering his youth I'll waive the consultancies to our own and foreign governments in acknowledging ledging equality.)

Not that from this writing he doesn't have a pretty good grasp on the end of the chicken most people avoid.

Best regards,