

9/23/71

Dear Bud,

I'm glad you read into Ray's letter of the 24th what I do. He is not very subtle and I suspect the censors have detected this, too. Naturally, I could not warn him of his stupidity in a letter that would be censored, so I addressed it the best way I could, as the carbon with this shows. The real reason, or rather one of the major reasons, I have wanted to see him since his big futility is to talk to him about this and to show him, if he would listen, how it is the one way he is certain to lose if he tries it. It can't succeed. If I really didn't expect him to try it, despite his record, I have not forgotten the first stupidity and have felt that he would repeat it.

There are potentials in this that you did not indicate recognizing, and one is the framing of either or both of us. The one thing of which I can think that can be misinterpreted that I have done is to warn him of in-jail violence. However, my letters to Jerry make clear my strong opposition to any attempt and my conviction he'll not survive success.

You have carbons of everything I have written him except what you hand delivered, and you know the essence of that. You ~~xxx~~ also have his response, that he won't be rushed. You have copies of almost everything he has sent me, and that of which you have no copies you and/or Jim have read and decided you didn't want. I, however, have kept everything.

One thing I have noted is that all his letters are not marked with what seems like Moore's initials. The inside flap of the envelope is marked, at the apex, when it is marked. In almost all cases, I have also saved the envelopes. Several times his letters have come without cancellation. As best I recall, in each case they were not initialed. I am certain that is true of his of the 22, which I will have with me Thursday when we expect to get together briefly, if I'm not too late with our checkups. This may be coincidence, but it may also signify special interest in some, for special reasons. They have to be crazy not to be watching him.

You may not agree with me, but I believe it is impossible for him to get away from there without help. Help after he gets out. He may or may not realize this, but without outside help, dogs would get him in no time. I can't imagine any outside help that would want him to live. And I can imagine other inmates pushing him along, as I can them not being autonomous. From what I think I know of him, there is hardly anyone with reasonable intelligence as easy to set up as he is.

I am not persuaded by what little you said of what the warden told you of his reasons for moving Jimmie, and I wrote Jerry a letter much earlier, of which you also have a copy, laying out what I thought of what the warden told him.

As you think of the potentials, perhaps the conditions I originally stipulated when I asked you if you'd represent him if I could get him to ask will have more meaning to you. I had given it some thought before speaking to you.

One of the things I hope you did when you were there is check his visitors. There is an elliptical reference to one in this letter, but I make no identification and he was careful to avoid it. If you didn't and can, I think you should. I suspect Stoner may have seen him recently, or he had a letter from Jerry or Stoner very recently. Jerry was to have written me over the weekend of 9/19, why he didn't say, but he didn't. And Jimmy has told me of Jerry's situation and plans what Jerry hadn't.

You may find it impossible to ask, but I think that before Stoner leaves the country, we should have a copy of the leads, etc., he is supposed to be checking out and hasn't. That he has been sitting of this for so many months in itself is suspect. It is at least seven months, and he appears not to have started. He has time to go to Germany, though. Must be some kind of Nazi reunion.

Sincerely,