

Dear Bud,

11/22/74

I had to go to Washington for other purposes yesterday. So, I took to Jim an accumulation I had saved up for him. As I separated them into stacks, what he should pay attention to seen and what could await freer moments, another and still shocking aspect of your latest insanity struck me. I had forgotten it because I've been trying to catch up on other work. I'd have completed this other work if you hadn't been playbeyng around leave me to do what should have been your work- assuming you had had the balls to do it, which nothing in our relationship persuades me is the case.

In dividing these papers I came to the carbon of the letter you asked me to write Jim McKinley. I wrote it on the 15th, the day you asked it. (Not that you don't have a staff to write letters and I do not, which means against that I'm doing your work without your paying for it. And at the cost of my own, which you also do not and never have paid for.)

At the earliest I wrote that letter that night, while I suppose you were doing these things that bring you ^{up}pleas^{ure}; generally of a nature denied me by circumstances but I don't relish them more when they are needless work I have to do because you don't.

That was a Friday. The earliest this letter to McKinley could have gone out is the next day a Saturday. The earliest it could have reached McKinley is the 18th, Monday. Neither you nor I have heard from him or you have not communicated it ~~with~~ to me. If all you have done and caused haven't turned this off, I presume the answers you wanted would have taken some time to obtain. In any event, as of this minute I've have no response. I don't think you did, if you did you didn't discuss it with me, and then, knowing nothing, you write Ray- again without discussion with me- on the 20th. You still don't know what in the hell is under consideration but you write, and a thoroughly offensive and objectionable letter. And when you write this letter you still haven't taken the time to really learn what McKinley and I discussed or to ask me if I'd had an answer.

Instead, as I learned yesterday, you get Bill and Jim together and give them your line of pious propaganda that carefully hides your incredible lust for two things: personal propaganda for this work and the full taking in public of full credit for work you have had about as much to do with as a fart does with a hurricane.

This gives me questions, because I do not consider you insane. And it makes me ask questions, beginning with who in the hell do you think you are to act this way? Where the hell do you get off asking me to take time and then going off on your own without waiting for response? If you had no intention of waiting for response, why ask me to waste any time? If you were serious in asking me to make this inquiry, why rush into the totally unnecessary letter to Ray when you knew I have never since gone off half coked and have had a junior-grade fiasco if cleaning up after you when you do it?

There has been so much of this I have to ask myself questions about you. What kind of man behaves in this way? What are your motives? Nothing was possible for months if anything were to eventuate. The date I gave you the 15th was ~~next~~ next May, not right away. Now what did you have to indulge your sick state of mind to write about me what I find so objectionable and you knew I would and say so, as you did in telling Jim about this, when there was not only no immediate need but when it was quite opposite your having asked me to write and get more details for you?

Do you want me to start writing Jimmy behind your back? Do you really want to read carbons of the kinds of letters I can write? You want me to send him cubs of the kinds of tapes of your sick boastings and appearances and general bullshit I have and can send him? Or xeroxes of what people have sent me of what they've heard you say? Or give him even a partial account of your failures, refusals, even the last hearing's? Maybe some of the really stupid CIA crap you know he is hung up about and was unconscionable when you did it?

All he'd have to hear is one tape of your appearance with Flamende and Sprague. And if knowing Haile's allegations - about which you also lacked the manliness of doing anything - let him know that you planned to have Flamende present in the courtroom (for what?) so Henry could subpoena him and play that tape among others.

Of course I have no such intention. My purpose in this reminder of your sick record and unseemly behavior is to try to get you to face what this sick behavior is going to cause if you don't cut it out and start behaving like a grown, mature man, not the captive of some strange and sick ego.

There is no way you can justify asking me to get you more details and when there is at best going to be a lapse of months before anything can be done - to your knowledge-rushing into what serves no constructive purpose and you know is going to anger me and give me offense. So certainly that you announce it in giving a copy to Jim.

Motive is fresh in my mind because you also told me of the Village Voice article of which I got a copy in yesterday's mail and read last night. Well, the bad part is about you and Deb. I had nothing to do with it, either. Where was your great concern for what would make "us" subject to complaint or could hurt "Jimmy's" interest when you went off half cocked on that stupidity which the paper quite accurately says involved you in a conflict of interest? Which is to say nothing of your judgement in doing it on your own chasing that chimera of heroes of yours.

Your motive is something you have to sort out for yourself. It is also something those in any association with you have to contend with endlessly.

Now there is something else you are going to have to face. Here we are with a hell of a lot of work to be done and in the court by 12/2. You haven't done a single bit of this work. And having done none of it you are off on your own affairs until after it has to be filed. How much of it are you paying for since you are doing nothing about it as you did nothing about preparing for the hearing, leaving Jim and me to do that and the discovery also without pay?

Jim represent me in matters that are important to me, but he has to give my interest up to do your work for you, without getting paid ~~anything~~ by you? Why should my lawyer have to abandon my interest simply because you not only don't do your work but don't do any part of it. Now this goes back in the most recent interest to September. You make cracks about my poverty and what the Cliff-chaser and the publicity-seeker calls my "distinctions" but with all your wealth you don't even pay your own way in the work for which you get - pay, take - full credit? And you do this at my additional cost by making a situation in which my lawyer has to abandon my interest to do your work without pay?

Yesterday I gave Jim the letter I had written in response to your letter to Jimmy. My purpose, as it has been in taking all this rotten shit from you, is to try to reduce these dissensions to a minimum. I gave him the right of censorship, as I had earlier, so that we might succeed. But we can't if you are going to behave this way and the earlier that is resolved the better. You either are going to behave as a decent, responsible professional man or you are not. You are going to end this kind of trickery and dirty stuff or you are not. And if you don't pack your own weight, you owe much to those who have to pack it for you. I'm finished paying your costs and taking this kind of stuff.

As I said in the letter I gave Jim, I don't want to do anything, don't want to say anything that can add to the problems you create endlessly. But if I see any further abuse of me or any further jeopardy to Jimmy's interest - in which I'll exercise my judgement, not yours - don't you be surprised at anything I may do. I haven't done all this work for which you snaffle credit just to let you kick it up any more than you have or let you go out while behaving like a dictator and dumping you work on me. It does this two ways by requiring work of me and by denying me the services of my own lawyer when I do need them very much.

With all of this I continue to try to protect you from a long string of stupidities of the past. As recently as day before yesterday I got wind of what may be another. I do hope it is innocent and have done all I can to make it that way. If you didn't have this concept of self that apparently is necessary to your survival you'd have told us about why Paul asked you what questions he did recently.

But he called me up to ask me how and why you got into the "day case". I did not know his reason and I could not lie to him. So instead I told him two things: I would tell him the truth off the record and then he could tell me what he wanted to use and I'd agree or not agree when I heard it.

I find it difficult to explain this and other questions as the norms of a normal news story or a normal feature. It apparently is for Peterac. Yesterday Paul told me his part is done. They have a three-weeks spread in time.

You are counsel because I saw to it. You are chief counsel because I also saw to that. You remained counsel after you were fired because I also wiped you ass and washed your face and saw to that too. You made agreements that were necessary to ~~Jimmy's~~ Jimmy's interests and you have never since kept them. What the hell is it to be counsel or chief counsel if it includes doing no work and is limited to abusing others, playing dirty tricks like this business of asking me to write on the 15th and doing what you did on the 29th, not meeting the full costs you obligated yourself to meet and in addition requires others to do your work and denies me the services of my own lawyer when I very much need them?

If you are too lazy to do any work, the least you can do is behave honorably and control whatever it is that drives you to these kinds of unscrupulous things. It is an effort to persuade you that I write you with this force. You may have an emotional need to dislike me or anger me or frustrate whatever I may want to do about anything and the more I do for you in silence the more you may resent it, but if you can't be rational about these emotions the one thing everyone has a right to expect of you is that you find some way of controlling them and not endlessly indulging them to make problems and troubles.

I mean it. I won't have you waste another half hour for me with this kind of dirty trick. And if I ever open up you'll be embarrassed for the rest of your life.

So please have the good sense you have in other areas and please stop creating problems that do not exist and facing a y that may when they do exist and treating Jim and me the way you have. Let us succeed in what has taken so much work and has come to where it is in a way of which I'll not remind you.

Please also take me seriously. If I have to take any more of this don't expect public restraint of me. I've more than had it. Years ago I started "Learning the Hard Way Solutions to Political Assassinations". If there is one work on the subject that is assured ~~making~~ commercial success this is it. I'd hate to have to feel compelled to reall write it. But what files I have for it! I haven't done it for kicks. I haven't done it for money much as I need even pennies. But I sure as hell could and would do it for principle!

So, stop abusing me and either do your share of the work or pay for it. You are not a lord who inherited all this, too. And we are not your serfs.

Sincerely,