

6/17/76

Dear Bud,

Thanks you very much for sending me a copy of Jimmy's letter of the 14th to you.

I am letting other things, including a cool dip on this hot day, go to caution you again about the potential for hurt to you in all of this. I'll explain.

First, if your list of the unappreciative has Jimmy at the top, I agree he belongs there.

If you resent how he has behaved with all you have made possible for him, again I am in complete accord. He has not behaved well at all.

So, you have a perfectly understandable emotional involvement. There is no need to apologise for emotion - certainly not to me - but there is a need not to be dominated by it. You have been under this influence and it has blinded you as it has made it impossible for you to look out for your own interests in this.

I am writing you in your interest. Except for Jim this has to be confidential.

You have one thing in mind in your letters. Others can read them in other ways. Recently you made a statement that can be interpreted as calling him guilty as charged. When used with a crazy self-indulgence by Bob it can be accepted this way by those who are not biased. Bob has on several recent occasions been crazy even for him. To her credit, Kay used none of that garbage in her dispassionate story. Keller made a big deal of it.

These people, the Reys et al, are not only unappreciative. They are devious. They have not levelled with us and they have lied to us. I know now.

The way their minds work and with the kinds of preconceptions and prejudices they and their kind have they are capable of anything, including filing charges against you. You have added to this possibility. If you have not answered this letter and intend to please discuss it with me first because I can't write you all I know.

Can you believe that Jimmy is content to spend the rest of his life in jail for a shooting he did not do? Or from what you know of him that as his letter indicates he may not file a petition cert and assure his staying in jail? Do you think any civil suit can exculpate him? Think about these and any other questions they suggest.

Behind our backs they have been dealing with another lawyer for two years. I do not know his name and remember, this is confidential. Remember also I want to learn more. Richard also is involved in this - and you are not to tell him you know. I have written him (and Bob). This Nashville lawyer is described to me by one in a position to know as wealthy and conservative. To my source anything to the left of Reagan is a Communist. He has no interest in money, has not been paid any and is not going to be, and he has yet to appear in this but will. Or, he has only political or personal interests to serve. (Think of those of this description where you come from who do not like you to begin with.)

What is this lawyer to do without having anything to do with a petition cert or the civil suit? I don't know but are you not one of the possibilities?

If you want a copy of the silly, self-destructing suit I had one sent to Jim. You will see overt anti-Semitism in it.

Don't write him any tell-all letters. Instead remind him of what he said he'd do after the 6th circuit decided, and tell him no greasy kid stuff like Arabs and Rosen, that you know better and you know this is not the first time he pulled that stupid one, so stupid even blacks won't go for it.

That Jimmy did not kill King does not make him a bishop. I don't think he knows anyone who regrets that crime and he has never told me he does. He'll do anything and can draw on those who'll do anything only. Don't arm them further. Best,