

10/17/72 Larry, I've copied a letter from Walter Rife. Please keep it in strictest confidence. I'll enclose my answer when I write him, hopefully later today. I've been away and am behind. I do not know if the Illinois stuff interests you. The part I want you to note and be alert to has to do with John Ray in California. Walter places it when King made a speech in L.A. That is when James was there and right before King was killed, that is, right before Ray left California. John with him then, Jerry seeing him at the Indian Trail and elsewhere, puts all the boys in contact at crucial times. It is brotherly, but is it more? John was then in business, successfully. The point is not that he needed no subsidy to make the trip but that he took the time. I believe the reflection of John's racism. What is surprising is that there was no harboring charge against either or both, for in the retracing of James both should have surfaced....Confidential means above all from Bud, who has become rabid, having been only a nut. He can't be trusted and goes and says crazy things. Jim is different. I will tell him, as I did when I got the lead. He is in a bad spot and between us we have had to do all the work on the preparation of the voluminous papers for court. Even the single thing Bud did, a legal memo, was utterly incompetent and entirely useless. It is that bad. I stay away from Bud. Haven't been in his office in two months. He still goes around making wild speeches. Last of which I know at Univ. Penn 10/2, with Sprague....Very bad situation.

Hastily,