

Dear Dick,

3/1/93

Last evening I fell going down to the cellar. Fortunately, only from the last step, when the heel of my "dropped" foot apparently did not clear the edge of the tread. It does not appear that anything broke but I feel it in both hip joints, even in ~~just~~ just sitting. Not long after I was upstairs watching the evening news I got a call from a friend who is also a friend of Mary Ferrell's. She read me the letter Livingstone wrote Mary about the time of the menacing letter he wrote me of which I sent you a copy. Mary, who has handled much adversity well for many years, including her own serious accidents and the years-long terminal interest of her husband, is ~~not~~^{not} being treated for what her doctor describes as "panic attacks." Because this all stayed in my mind until I retired and will not leave it this morning, I write you what I'll mail when I get that letter, when I'll enclose it.

Earlier I sent you what I thought might be of interest because Groden had filed suit against Livingstone and "his publisher." His last publisher was Carroll & Graf.

You did not address this in any ~~way~~ way. I therefore did not ask you to. But this time there is a difference because reports have reached Ferrell that Carroll & Graf is to publish Livingstone's next book, the one he has described in his letters of which you have and will have copies and in conversations with me.

Normally that a publisher plans to publish a book is not a secret. This time I am asking you whether Carroll & Graf does plan to publish Livingstone's next atrocity. I think that Ferrell and I and others are entitled to know this. If there is some reason why you cannot, you can tell me that when not answering the question.

From the way Livingstone is spending money C & G must have done very well with his drek. That can be an inducement to put up with what inevitably they had to put up with.

I am not posing any question of libel. The intent of libel can be accomplished easily without ~~crossing~~ crossing the line of technical violation. I am raising a question of common decency, of subsidizing such outrageous conduct, including the menacing of two older people, ^{who} have other and serious problems to cope with. The stress it has imposed on me is nothing to what it has done to Ferrell - about whom not a single allegation he made is true other than she is politically conservative. But it is a stress I ought not have to live with and I would hope Carroll & Graf would not want any association with, particularly not subsidizing ^{and} in other ways encouraging it.

It is not easy for me to believe that they have had the contact they've had with Livingstone without realizing that he is not in contact with reality. I do not raise this as a possible argument in a libel suit because I have no such thing in mind for a number of reasons not the least of which is that I now am not up to any such stress. Again, it is another question of common decency, of publishing an irrational man who has no contact with reality, who intends to be hurtful and has been whether or not within the laws of libel.

If I were interested in retaliation there are obvious possibilities. I have made no such effort and plan none.

My interest is not in harming the sick man. It is in ending the vicious campaigns he has been waging against us and in learning whether or not Carroll & Graf do ^{or} intend to publish the insanity upon which ~~is~~ he is engaged. This does have the effect of subsidizing it if not in fact, whether or not of law, of being part of it.

While I cannot be certain until I read that letter I believe that as with the letter to me where Livingstone does not merely lie he distorts and misrepresents.

As for the conspiracy he invented to make himself the victim of it, Shaw has been here ~~only once~~ and I then debunked the project he was working on. We have not been in phone or mail contact. *On in any agreement.*

I hear from Mack rarely and in recent years only with regard to his trying to have an assassination picture enhanced. I've loaned him the clearest print but most of their hope rests on a print with more contrast. I disagree and have publicly with his and his colleague's interpretation of that picture and it must have been much more than five years since he borrowed my print.

For years the only contact between Ferrell and me was my response to an occasional Xmas card from her and expressions of ~~sympathy~~ sympathy over her and her husband's serious illnesses and accidents. On the assassination, she and I have not been in agreement from our first contact more than 25 years ago.

Some conspiracy, huh? And on the intent to harm him, his accounts of what happened at the ASK insanity, which I also have never had any contact with, are entirely false. The proofs of this range from independent accounts written and sent me unsolicitedly to the published account of the reporter he took there with him hoping for some favorable publicity where he lives, in Baltimore. That also was sent me without my asking for it. I did not even know about it. I have never had any interest in Livingstone other than not have him intrude into my life. But I have made no exceptions, all who write in the field have access to my records. Although his associate, the Baltimore policeman Waybright is the only person who has ever had any interest in or had ever wanted any copies of what is in my Lifton file and he denies he stole the guts of it, I can think of no other possibility. Or, Livingstone sent his agent here to rob me and he did rob me, regardless of Livingstone's lies about it.

I find it hard to believe that C & G can consider publishing him and the evil to which he is wedded but he has apparently spread the word that it will. I have not been in touch with Ferrell for many, many months, only slightly then, and I do not intend to cause her more grief with any reminders so I do not know her source or sources. But she was told that C & G is to publish what he describes in the letter I'll enclose. So, I hope you will be able to give me a direct answer that I will pass on to her. Best to all,

Harold

P.S. To get this fiercely determined evil and irrationality ~~out~~ by this fiercely determined man out of mind to the degree possible until I get the letter I'll enclose I decided that ~~one~~ of those Livingstone has identified as his accomplices there is one to whom I should write. When I went to the next to the bottom file drawer to get his address I discovered that I was not able to read the identifications on the file folders. It took a little time but by pulling them up I finally got the correct one and returned to my desk and wrote that man. I was unsteady on arising and had to hold onto objects to get to my desk. After writing that letter when I got up I found I am still unsteady, ~~and~~ ^{etc} especially when I turn my head. And ~~now~~ I have to dress and drive to the medical lab for the blood test not only scheduled regularly for today but particularly because the snow prevented my getting the test scheduled for this last Friday. I have had them thrice weekly for many years.

I'll be careful, of course, and I do not have to rush. I get there in time to walk a bit in the building in which the lab is.

This is the effect that maniac has had on me. I can only imagine what it has done to Ferrell to put her under a doctor's care for panic attacks.

My purpose in this is to indicate to you that this is not merely something we do not like and resent.

It is a serious matter that I hope will not have serious consequences.

It can be merely raising the blood pressure of people of our ages.

H.L.O. 2/19/92 to
M. Ferrell
attached