

3/26/76

Mr. Richard Gallen
14 E 60 St.,
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Dear Dick,

There have been some interesting developments so while I await the coming of an apparently delayed friend I'll try to update you.

It had been my intention to phone you yesterday when I was in New York briefly, but today's events would have ~~me~~ changed it anyway. I was in New York long enough to tape a segment of the Gil Nobel Show to be aired by WABC-TV on 4/4, with Les Payne. The taping was delayed. There was just enough time for Les and me to talk a little on the way to the train and over a drink while checking in. We also exchanged what we had for each other. He gave me some of his notes, those he'd been able to type, and there will be more. I'll probably await them before doing that chapter.

Spent Tuesday afternoon with what I think will turn out to be a productive hassle with the FBI, the FOIA part and the Office of Legal Counsel, joined by the Laboratory for the hottest hassle. While I left with only 18 pages of xeroxes and 10 pictures to be provided, there was a radical change in court today, with the tolerant judge ruling our way on everything. Even the extension of time to the rascals. Before ~~xxx~~ she agreed I whispered to Lesar to agree to all the time that appeared reasonable to him. It turns out to be until May 5, by when they are to have complied. Their palaver turns out to be an admission of non-compliance I was able to specify Tuesday, but only one of many. I'm also to have some 40-50 documents from the Civil Rights Division in a week or less.

Don't expect too much yet. The most I expect ~~x~~ is a few more crumbs and further proof of non-compliance, further proof from what they'll give me that it proves more they know they have and have not given me.

Before leaving for NYC I was able to go over what I got Tuesday so ~~in~~ could wave it in front of the judge and she ruled for us even on their masking. What made this more effective is that I'd cut the FBI off at the angles Tuesday with ridicule, filling in the gaps of their masking and telling them it was all public. The instrument through whom they delivered read the original and had to agree.

What is nice is that the judge interprets my complaint to be for everything, said so, said that whether they or she like the law it says I'm entitled to it, so they said they'd deliver. What makes it not nice is that they dare not deliver unless they have decided to come clean wiping themselves with the sheet of Hoover's ghost or to go through the motions of coming clean with delivery of as little as possible.

She directed them to justify each masking. When these range from names that have been printed uncountable millions of times to "KKK" after Ray's name and one of his well-known aliases under which they filed a criminal charge they will not have a clean face.

Once I was able to force them to let me go through files, even their ~~xxxx~~ selections, I had enough for my loose bridgework to grasp firmly. So we were able to burn them with ridicule today: they claim not to have a single picture of the scene of the crime. I had told them they have dozens and I'm not telling them which I know but if I have to I'll tick off dozens by identification number and describe what each shows. You know I will and by now these people, all new to me, have little doubt.

At one point they were so embarrassed they called the Lab to send someone to respond to my allegation that they were holding back and that some of the "results" supplied were meaningless because they were not statistical. So, the FBI's expert in spectrographic analysis said heatedly that these tests are not reduced to statistics. I replied in a very polite way to this man I'd proven in court is a perjurer that not

he but "The Bureau" had erred before. And I was without doubt it had again. "It" exclaimd that he had done the work and I was wrong. When I told him he had given me the proof he insisted but I think he' colleagues were not persuaded. If they checked they learned I was right on both score: the statistics are ~~quite~~ essential and the norm except in frame-ups, and he had given me the proof.

They are uptight because of the affidavit I filed. They have not had time to respond. When they do it will be more fun because they can't respond.

I don't think they were encouraged by the judge's magnificent understatement, that pictures of the scene of the crime do seem rather important, that they are the practise of the ordinary police, and she would assume the FBI's practise is not inferior.

If Lesar is willing they'll have more heavy papers before the time for response has run. Real heavy.

So, there are parts of the third part that will have to wait. I'll write it as a chronological treatment, which means I'll have worked my way to that point by the time five and a half weeks have passed. (She gave them less than they asked without us saying a word.)

I have found another part-time typist. She worked one day and had the second taken from her by the crazy murder of a friend's son. She had to help the friend.

Last night when I got to Lesar's it was right after another crazy murder. He lives in a town house next to an apartment building. Two robbers tried to rip off a man in the apartment house as he came home. His spontaneous act was to swing his brief case at the one with the gun and then throw himself on the ground. The man he hit did fire. The shot grazed the intended victim and went into the heart of the other robber. Didn't even make the papers, but the helicopters were over with spotlights illuminating Jim's patio. The police were back after daylight to search the patio for any weapon thrown over the fence.

We had another pro tem victory in court, in another suit, for all those Warren Commission executive session transcripts I've not yet shaken loose. That judge gave the government so little time to respond to our interrogatories that they are due this coming week. Going over them will take some time. AP is interested. So interested I'll not be surprised if they hold or arrange a press conference for me to release them. The tentative deal is that I'll make copies available a little ahead of time and go over them - if we get them - with representatives of the major media and then they'll hold for release until the press conference to give the rest a fair shake. I'm inclined to believe the government will want to stonewall but I'm not certain it will decide to ~~maintain~~ continue stonewalling. However, if I get these or any transcripts they'll not hold, so I have to do something like this.

There is enough to do with the ms so that this delay really makes no problem. If I had help it could and would, but I have little help so with the realities the delay will be slight. After the middle of the month and a little time for my wife to rest up the retyping will go faster.

A Playboy lawyer phoned me Wednesday late afternoon. He would like to be able to eliminate that to which I object, will try, he says, but can't guarantee. They are not on deadline yet. If you have a copy of a case in which there was a request for an injunction, I sure could use it. Lesar can't practise in Maryland and I can't pay a Maryland or Illinois lawyer if I have to proceed.

Lesar and I think that the pressures we are keeping on Justice are more than anything else responsible for their new supposed plan, to re-investigate the King assassination with a supposedly impartial body. The decision is not official but was in yesterday's Post. This means I have to find it possible to write faster. I could make the book and prevent another whitewash.

Hastily,