

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701  
12/1/75

Mr. Shawn Kelly  
Box 2797, Station B  
Vanderbilt University  
Nashville, Tenn. 37235

Dear Shawn,

I'd have written you earlier had it been possible. The trip there was rather much for me. I could hardly get my left shoe off that night and couldn't get it on in the morning at all. I wore soft, unsoled moccasins and couldn't get anything I could get on when they got wet the next day, as Paul Kelley may have told you. While that foot remains more swollen it and the leg are giving less trouble and little by little I'm getting caught up on the backlog.

First, I owe you an apology for giving a student moderator so difficult a job. While you did well under very difficult circumstances, I know it could not have been easy. Until it happened I did not know there would be no faculty. However, I'd have done the same because I was determined to give Mr. Belin a little of his own record to face, for the explicit purpose of my prepared remarks and because of the sanctimony with which he has been virtually barnstorming blaming everyone else.

By now you know that despite his stone wall refusal Wednesday night, after that and after finishing the new evidence in Post Mortem he made an about-face on the weekend, just days. If in my view he did that less than honestly or even fairly I am pleased that he has, as I asked, taken this first, halting step. We are too close to events and too far from the future to know but I think it may have been a significant development. I hope in retrospect you can see the ~~possibility~~ possibility and are content with what followed if not with the encounter itself.

I had made inquiry earlier and was told that the University would tape the program and would make copies available to each of us. This appears not to have happened. I had a tape recorder with me and had I known would have made the tape I still want if available for archival purposes. (I plan no writing on Belin at all and never did single him out, having addressed him only in terms of his work.)

Paul said a number of students did have tape recorders and that he would see if he could get tapes or dubs. I have not heard from him. I do hope he has made the effort and that if it was unsuccessful that further means by be tried like a notice in the paper or radio station. If this can be done the quality is no problem because I do not want the tape for public use. If it is comprehensible it will do for me.

Thanks for anything you can do and for making the best of what must have been a rather difficult evening. Best to Paul.

Sincerely,

P.S. As you know, I made no effort to sell or even promote the new book with this new evidence or the earlier ones. I enclose a flyer in the event anyone, including your library, asks.

Harold Weisberg