

Dear Jim,

6/27/75

When Allard Lowenstein rolled in last midnight he began with a fine compliment, "If you were not one of my heroes I'd not be here at this hour."

As you know I'd been phoned the night before and made arrangements for him to reach me at the Chutch committee phone where I knew I'd be and he just missed me there. I later made contact through a Robert Long. It is the son who did the phoning and the father I got.

After I got home Lowenstein phoned and asked if I could return to D.C. I explained why I could not and invited him here. He said he had meetings but would phone at 7:30 to let me know if it would be possible. It was 9 when he did. He then said he'd be here about 11. The meetings ran longer than expected and included one with Cranston and Tunney. I think there was also a public meeting.

Anyway, it was a nice thing he said, nicer because it was unnecessary.

It would have been good if we could have gotten together earlier. I'd asked Policoff to arrange it years ago and then after his NYC press conference. In fact, I remember now that between Chicago and his going public on the RFK work I'd asked JP to do this on other occasions when I was going to NYC because I felt it might be possible to activate him. Because he actually was familiar with my work and holds in low esteem those I also do I am now certain he would have turned on earlier and would not have spent a year not realizing the interrelationships he now sees clearly and asked me about early this morning.

We got along very well. He had an Ed Burns (phon) with him driving and two other good-looking young men, one of Latin origin. They said almost nothing. I also gave him my last extra copy of the 1/22 transcript.

I made no effort to ask him about the RFK case instead responding to his questions. I satisfied him on the JFK and King matters and what is relevant, including personalities.

It turns out that he was double-crossed early and by the same elements of the media I had been because he also had sought them out as I had. He actually had an arrangement with the Post that led to the assigning of Kessler. He had been working with CBS before he went public, too.

I felt it necessary to tell him of the hope I have for the proposal I made yesterday to Mac's man, who is now to be here next Wednesday rather than Friday. I was also candid about the House people and what I can now visualize. He knew that one group expects to have Bud as counsel if it is enacted and volunteered he thought that would be a mistake. He knows more than enough along this line and what I followed about our proposal to Downing's people on the propose amendment. We had only the briefest discussion of legislative purpose because he is in accord with our view. I explained it to the students, which I take the young men to be, and they also saw it.

We did ramble into many areas and people, with only one disagreement that I think he will now see in a different light. He believes the RFK case is the easiest one to reopen and I the opposite. He knows more of that evidence than I do but his best representation of it is that there is a question. I said that with the other two there is no reasonable question. I asked him what would be the situation if after there was an RFK inquiry there remained a reasonable doubt.

He is doing a book. I volunteered that I could be of a little help, specified it and he was pleased, showing it more than saying it.

Earlier he had said that he has to fly to Calif. this a.m. and would return in August. He must have said he'd be back in August four or five times and as he left.

I do think that his coming at all that late and after so heavy a day and so early a start needed this a.m. is a measure of his seriousness. Or, I think we have another responsible ally and I feel he feels the same way.

He knows the realities of the Ray case. We spent little time on it.

I think he sees that any accomplishment with one is accomplishment with all. He also knows my belief that the urgent immediate need is the appearance of PM, to which he did not address himself.

We'll probably talk more about this. HW