

Dear Quin,

2/10/79

I've just come to the end of what I hope is the complete draft of a long affidavit in 78-0249. Jim told me yesterday that Smith refused the request for a short time extension in which to file it but I'm finishing it anyway and expect to use it. Meanwhile, I have to get it out of my mind for a while so I'll start with the accumulated mail. Your thoughtful copy of the Brill piece is among the more recent of the accumulation but I've also received a couple of things you might want.

I agree with the second part of the note you wrote with the Esquire copy: If Mark Lane does not sue Steven Brill he must be disbarred.

There is virtually no chance this side of complete desperation that Lane will sue. I once tried to entice it. I'd heard that he was telling others that if I ever said anything else about him he'd sue me. I wrote him promptly, I believe certified, telling him that if what had been reported to him was not enough to persuade him to sue then he was this kind of sinefabit, that kind of crook, etc. I've never since heard any alleged threat of an alleged suit. I could entertain you endlessly ever this sort of thing.

I had nothing to do with the Brill piece. He never phoned me. At one point one of the Esquire editors checked a few minor points, a minor I do not recall them. The opinion I then offered is that it is impossible to libel Lane and I had enough to defeat any suit and would provide it.

For years I was publicly silent about the monster, ducking talk show questions and avoiding pointless controversy that would have wasted time and energy. Until early 1975, when I prepared to tangle with him face-to-face at NYU law school - only to come down with pneumonia and pleurisy. Jim read the speech I was not able to cut. I'd done a draft only and expected to reduce it in NYC but got so sick instead. I've never heard a word from Lane about it. I've done him in too often, meaning each of the few times we appeared together.

Short of his finale ultimate I doubt I can get old or sick or weak enough for him to want to pick a fight with me. Right now I'm content for events to take whatever course they take. I've made and will make no effort to get in touch with the NY bar or the DC lawyer who filed cahnges. On the other hand, as I offered as recently as yesterday to an Atlanta woman magazine reporter, what I have is available to scholars and reporters alike. On Lane it is a fat file and many tape recordings not one of which I made myself. They were sent to me by others, from odd places, like Pittsburgh.

I do not approve of the FBI's efforts against him over the Warren Commission and would not have anything to do with the FBI over that. However, I know the sick man and was certain all along that he was well aware of what could and then did happen in Jonestown. That is truly frightful and if he was in any degree an accessory the law should work and I hope it does.

My own belief is that the Department and probably the FBI are afraid of the martyr bit, as I know the Post is. His best present protection is a combination of the wrong things the FBI and CIA did and all the hollering and exaggerating he did to so many audiences. It is protection only if the DJ or FBI permit self-intimidation if there is the case I believe there is.

Lil will probably do some copying later. If and when she does I'll include a copy of a Memphis article that really understates the utter stupidity of his latest effort supposedly for Ray and a copy of a leaked memo he wrote Jim Hask Jones. The leak was to Crowdsen. Jim will probably send me the story that finally appeared and typical of Crowdsen says much less than it could. Crowdsen's leak, according to the San Francisco FBI, was not by the FBI. I don't care, I'm telling you what I was told. Garry would not surprise me. Kevin, who is an old friend, tells me it is false. Lane spoke to him. The rest is totally untrue.

By proxy, by informing another, I've located several other of the movies and other stills the Dallas FBI did not send to DV or apparently let FBIHQ

knew about. They don't have to be told what HQ does not want to have to work around...I hear the Denver Post had a crazy and factually wrong story about another previously unseen film I had nothing to do with. That film, I'm told, has other importances, if it comes to your attention.

I've not been able to return to the New Orleans stuff about which I think I wrote you a little. I've some memos that awaited copies, etc., but do not have a clear recollection of them now. Except for what I could not avoid I've been working on the affidavit and done other things in odd moments if at all.

Aside from the lane. I've got it virtually clear and think I feel a bit better for the exertion. The snow blower was a great investment. Keeping it going straight also exercises the arms and just walking behind it the legs. Did close to 2,000 yards behind it before 10:30 a.m.

I've loaned the Post-Dispatch the Patterson file, with his OK. I did not have time to even look at it. They'll make and mail a copy to him if they haven't and I've told them I'll pay for it.

He has written me about what I think may be a Lane-inspired St. L. dis-information probably aimed at the FBI. I have to respond now on the chance I can get it in the mail before Monday's.

Thanks for the addition on Lane,

2-6

Dear Harold:

Sorry for the delay in getting this to you...jammed, as usual. By the way, I did storify this for our GWB net which does include a station in San Francisco.

best to you & Lil...hope to see you soon...

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Art', written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Today I spoke with Art Kevin is the News Director of KVI radio in Seattle, Washington which is a Golden West Broadcast station. Kevin, Donald Freed and I have worked together over the last 14 years in investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. I discussed the Jonestown project with Kevin in some detail and I discussed the conspiracy against the People's Temple as well. He is currently completing a one hour radio program to be broadcast nationally by a network in the U.S.

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He has agreed to do a one hour program on Jonestown and the People's Temple also to be broadcast nationally. We have discussed the possibility of his interviewing Jim Jones and other people at Jonestown through a radio connection. He is now exploring the technical possibilities as to how to handle that from Seattle. I have the utmost confidence in Kevin's ability to be incisive and fair and I think that his one hour program will be of great value. He can be reached at KVI radio in Seattle at (206) 223-5700. His home number in Seattle is (206) 392-2112.

Among those who might be contacted following Kevin's program are, Jerry Williams at NBC radio in Washington, D.C. (starting there in two weeks), Roger Aldi in Los Angeles, Mort Sahl who will also be starting in Washington, D.C. in two weeks. In addition, we should concentrate upon Geraldo Rivera for a special report from Jonestown for ABC Television. In addition to that, we should meet with Jack Anderson and his aide who is a friend of mine, Les Whitten, who can run a story predicting that we will be filing action in the near future.

• Mark Lane
9/27/78 - Memphis

