

4/17/72

Dear Jim,

I realize everyone is busy. I'd like to see some sign by others that they also understand that I also am, that the writing of an unnecessary letter like this one takes time I require for other things, and that I have too many things to worry about without petty ones being added.

I phoned Bud this a.m. because of a letter I received from Jerry and some intelligence in it requiring, in my view, immediate action to forestall what could be bad, aside from its other important content. He was in conference, Carmen thought for a half hour. I then phoned your office and Bob did not take the call. In both cases, it was understood that the call came from me. I waited a half hour and phoned each office again. This time the other girl answered the phone and asked that I return the call after 4:30 when Bud and Bill would return (and it to do that means I have to give up something else and go to other trouble whether or not I do, wasting more time). I then called the committee office and there was no answer. Each time I had to go through the whole orgaramole of giving my name and number and waiting for the operator to write it down, etc.

Four times. One should have been enough. I can understand that Bud was too rushed to return the call before he had to leave. But I can't understand that the half buck it would cost for Carmen to call me back and take a message would be that burdensome, not nearly as burdensome as my placing and replacing phone calls and the one more effort I'll make to reach you.

It would of course, have been better that you have been in an free, or that Bud had the time I clearly understand he did not have or he would have taken or returned the call. But with that not possible in either case, is there some special reason why this kind of thing always has to be dumped on me, that I alone have to waste the time and be needlessly annoyed when I am in such condition that any annoyance is bad for me? All I had to do to give you the minimum intelligence needed to inform Bud and you of the immediate is read about three sentences, no more, from Jerry's letter. Discussion could have followed when and if possible and deemed necessary.

I feel pissed off enough about having had to spend the entire day up to this moment, 1:25 p.m., dealing with things about which Bud, understandably, feels he can't be firm, but when there is no glory or profit, only cost and trouble in this for me, need I also have this petty thoughtlessness to confront? It comes too often from too many people who do not intend it and frankly, it is accumulating into the intolerable. If you think you both are busy, I'd like you to examine the interrogatories that, among other things, I must complete by the end of this week.

And each time something like this happens it reminds me of my poverty, of the fact that I can't pay the half buck for the phone call, and that I find intolerable. It reminds me that when I asked Bud if he'd take Ray's case under certain conditions if I could arrange it, even though it seemed totally impossible, I spent a year accomplishing it, and Bud didn't live up to the conditions, simple and to his interest as all were, and even told me he didn't have the money when I asked him to repay the cost of the phone calls from Jerry only. Again, a reminder I find intolerable. That I suffer some kind of anxiety complex has nothing to do with assassinations or you or Bud, but it is a reality with which I have to live, among many disagreeable ones. If you do not understand what seemingly minor things can do to this, perhaps from her medical training May may recall enough to inform you. You were present a few days ago when I arranged a consultation with my doctor on this, so you know it is a current problem, and that it is of sufficient significance for me to do something about it, or try. If it is asking too much to ask that the needless thoughtlessnesses that can exacerbate it, even if they have no such intent, be eliminated, then I shall have to seek other means of ending a problem that has no need to exist and that is difficult for me. Sincerely,
P.S. Carbons of my letters to Jerry and John enclosed. I remind you time for my going to St.L is getting shorter and shorter-IF I go.