

JER
Gerald R
JP, JW
JL

3/14/72

Mr. George McMillan
12 Hilliard St.
Cambridge, Mass. 02138

Dear George,

If 6:30 a.m. is an unusual hour for a phone call, it doesn't trouble me. It was long after my day's work started when you placed your call. But what perplexes me is that a man of your apparent means, with that "happy contract" and other and I would assume more attractive assets, would call me reverse. ~~XXX~~ Perhaps if the voice I heard say "no" when the operator said I would accept the call but not the charges was either drunk or sleepy there may be a clue.

By coincidence, Jerry phoned me last night. During the course of the conversation he told me that you had bragged to him about how great a boxer you are, going back to the Marines, and how you intend to practise up a bit on me. Friend of the past, I am aging, have a bad back, bursitis in both shoulders, recently almost chopped a thumb off and suffer the expectable consequences of an overly-sedentary life, but I am unconcerned about such a threat, whether seriously made or for other purposes. You will find that I am almost always home and live in an isolated place, without alarms, floodlights or any protective devices. And should you de ire to come here, I'll be happy to give you directions. Come as friend or enemy, as you consider yourself.

I did not start any of this, George. As I told you, I never said a nasty thing about you or your wife to Jerry. I think it is fair to ask if you can honestly say the same to me. As I made clear, I was responding to your initiative, and it was an unwise one. You underestimated your quarry and told him what only a zany would believe.

What is bugging you I do not know, but I can guess. What you have gotten yourself into is inconsistent with the man I knew long ago. It is not the kind of thing of which he would have been proud. Nor is it a project appropriate for a man who was a friend of King's. But I am not responsible for that, am I?

I am no boxer, George. But I am not a runner, either. I stand and I can be counted at any time. If you do not know this from the past, you should know it from my work.

Jerry also told me that you said if you got another letter from me you would not accept it and then would take dire steps. As you see, I am writing that letter immediately on your calling. You can accept it or not, as you see fit.

Had my work not put me so deep in debt, I would have accepted your call.

Believe me or not, I am sorry for the position in which you find yourself. How you can hold me responsible for any of it I just can't see. Nor can I begin to understand what you have written and said about me. It is that to which I reacted. However, should you really want to talk to me, by phone or in person, by all means do.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

HAROLD WEISBERG • ~~HYATTSVILLE, MD 20734~~
HAROLD WEISBERG
ROUTE 2
FREDERICK, MD 21701

Mr. George McWilliam
12 Willard St.
Cambridge, Mass. 02138
Dear George,



Direct
No. of
Mailing
Office

RETURNED TO SENDER
IF CHECKED
Number

u. s. a.
in state
of this country



MAR 16 1972

Robert Johnson
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