

Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701
12/10/73

Dear Bob,

You are fortunate, getting a year's sabbatical in England. I also am fortunate. I have just worked out a 100% recovery settlement with one of the crooks who has owed me money after a prestigious lawyer said he could do nothing. This will keep the bank off my back for a year or so and all we'll have to worry about is food and the other elements of simple survival.

As you will note, because you find single spacing intimidating, I've expanded a little. I don't suppose you have even an academic understanding of what it is not to be ~~able~~ able to afford even cheap paper or to be reminded each time you lick a stamp that your debt is increased by that little bit. This is out-of-date Ozalid paper I was given. It is because when 1,000 sheets of the case that remain are gone that I'll have to buy paper and have no income that I single space. However, I am without apologies for my poverty or my willingness to cope with what it means. And because I regard it as an obligation, I do continue with work that assures no income.

I presume that if you have left by the time this gets there it will reach someone's attention.

You apologize for letting another year run. This is how there was all that time following those transactions. But you do not return the copies of the file that I made for you after you said you would try, knowing the history. I would appreciate their return so that I will not have to repeat that cost and time.

You refer only to my unanswered letter of a year ago. I wrote you recently, with a specific question. Perhaps that letter did not reach you. Raymar has dunned me for several hundred dollars they claim I owe them. I wrote to ask if this tolled the statute, constituting a recognition of the debt and the incomplete transaction. In another case, another state, it did, and acting pro se because I could drive there and had a pad, I worked out a 65% settlement at the door to the courtroom. So, if the demand they made of me, recently, means or can mean that the statute has not run, I will attempt in my own way to collect. I think the facts would then be clear enough for them to consider settling for what they do owe me in return for a waiver of the interest I should get in court. The interest by now is what for me is a considerable sum. If it would not be too much/trouble for someone to let me know, I'd appreciate an opinion on whether the bill does stop the running of the statute under California law.

If I seem a bit short, I am reflecting the specific and the symbolic disappointment I feel. You could have told me to fuck myself. Instead you offered to try to help and then did nothing. This is not what I would have expected of you and it is typical of the attitude of the comfortable and established who also have principles. As in Germany and elsewhere,

those for whom life was good saw only that good. Here it gives us Nixon and what he stands for, which I suspect is more than you realize, to see and to somehow survive. You have no idea what The Watergate story is from the reporting. (I, ^{am}~~is~~) writing about it and I have quite a bit that hasn't been reported and won't be unless I do. I have no contract, agent or prospect.) All those of means and decent concern abdicated when JFK was assassinated, for all the world as though IF a lone ngt did it it could and would have no consequences. And the few who like I tried to do something became more unwelcome among "liberals" than among conservatives.

This footnote as commentary: No "liberal" I knew, and I knew and approached many, would do a thing to help get the first book on the Warren Commission out when it faced a total publishing block. But the most reactionary newspaper in the country did make it possible and after reading the xerox edition, on his own and at his own expense had two independent libel readings made to enable me to survive. Then an ultra-conservative printer, knowing I didn't have a cent and had no income, printed it. The intellectuals were and remain silent, save for those who still actively oppose. And they do, actively. Most recently with Ford's confirmation, telling themselves that it will make things better while they know that he is at best what LBJ said, a man who spent too much time playing football without a helmet. I tell you he is much less than this best and that Nixon picked him out.

So, I do hope that you or someone else will take the little time required to return my file and perhaps find just a little more time to let me know if these crooks have stopped the running of the statute. You have not even told me what the statutory provisions are.

I hope you have a good year and that at its ends you will not be reluctant to return.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

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December 5, 1973

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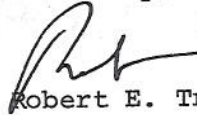
Dear Harold:

Sorry not to have answered your (January 29th!) letter. I'm afraid I was intimidated by the packed, single-spaced pages.

It seems to me that the transactions are so ancient (1967, 1968) as to have been barred by the statute of limitations. At any rate, I can't go into it now because I am about to take off for England, with Decca, for a year's sabbatical.

Again, my humble apologies.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Treuhaf

RET:C