

Dear Phil,

8/21/78

Relet 18, hasty response before phone and day's work interfere. I'll read the clips later. Many thanks for them.

I have no clear recollections of the existence or destruction of any jail medical records on Ray. If this becomes important the best source is Jim Lesar, who will know by a carbon and a copy of your letter. His home phone is 202/484-6023 (office there also), his downtown office is 202/223-5587. I recall log-book entries but no other jail records as distinguished from those "eMere may have made and kept. My offhand impression is that to hide from himself what his strange go cannot accept, the psychological effects of that kind of confinement Ray exaggerates the physical manifestations. (What does "Morris county-mayor-elect" mean? Have you a county mayor?) Morris's violation of Ray's constitutional rights is, I think, a much more serious matter.

Eist- all bullshit.

I knew Cowden (you mean this by Crowder, I take it) was fake, as Renfro always is, sad to say.

Eggs and sausage man did not eat eggs and sausage and it is the same name I gave you before, Gene/ Crawford.

Ray told me in 3/71 that it was not Willie Green when I showed him pix.

If there is an effort to entice Wayne into any Lane/Ragsdale involvement, other than the noble one of defending Ragsdale (for which congrats to Wayne), I hope he will avoid any temptation. It would be an invitation to personal disaster I would not like any of my friends to suffer.

Particularly with regard to Gracie. That will kick back hard. Lane, in the end, will abandon her, leaving Ragsdale with the responsibility. There are other reasons I'd prefer not to specify now.

Wayne has his own way of knowing that Lane knew nothing about the subject and never made any effort to learn what the fact is, as his performance before the committee reflects to those who know subjectmatter. He hurt Ray much and with this did serious harm to truth.

Be interesting to see if Ray tumbles to this.

Also be interesting to see if hrgs trigger any stories.

Best,

18 Aug/78

Dear Harold,

Your Elvis clip was most unexpected, and helpful. (Had shorter wire story here.)

I know Ragsdale, but don't know very much about him, really. He works in same office with Wayne. Wayne told me that Duncan once said he could as easily have been a Democrat, but GOP offered more opportunity at the moment. Duncan is liberal in some regards; stopped 2 cops from roughing up a black & had to go to court over it (Wayne defending & getting him off).

Harold Ford constituency 50-50 black&white (approx). Ford gets white votes, too. Ragsdale would need black votes, which he won't get. Nor does he expect to win.

I heard entire first morning of Ray hearing on NPR. Did WxPost run the text of Ray statement, or do you know have it in document form? I'd be interested in obtaining a copy. Especially am I interested in Ray saying Wm. Morris destroyed Ray's Shelby County medical records (Morris county-mayor-elect, thanks to Harold Ford). And Harry Avery records gone, as well as those mislaid by John J. Hooker Sr.

English cop implicating Ray very interesting today, but: wasn't committee premature? Couldn't they have imported the chap or had him on tape & played it? Just trying to make a splash on last day of Aug. hearing, weren't they? (Even if cop's statement proves to be valid.)

Crowder says he didn't see Ray at Memphis service station, but was in TX at the time; I guess you heard.

Ray gave name of "eggs & sausage" man, but I didn't jot down. Do you have?

Willie Green at service station disclaim he placed Ray at svc sta--you hear?

Thanks for mentioning me to Enquirer. We didn't get together. But I do a little for them on my own.

Yes, I notice name of supposed Invader cop. First at MLK's side after gunshot?

Dilemmas, dilemmas, dilemmas!

Best,

*Phil*