

Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701  
4/4/74

Herb Rubaker  
NBC News

Dear Herb,

You will remember that I wrote you when Jimmy Ray turned your Tomorrow show down on an interview and asked you to tell them that I would explain to him that NBC had nothing against his interest in mind and that I was sure he would then agree. I suggested it would be better if NBC had me and one of the lawyers present, which would safeguard all interests and might be productive otherwise.

Because I was not there, the otherwise will have to wait a while, but I do suggest that by now you at least should know me well enough to understand that it might have held possibilities.

You will remember that I asked one of the lawyers, Jim Lesar, to phone you about the very decent but misplaced concern of NBC's lawyers. You should have known that we would not be part of doing anything that could in any way jeopardize his rights.

I got an immediate message from Jimmy. He said he would go ahead. He did write your west-coast people. Thereafter he wrote me about the filming, about two weeks ago.

They did a considerate thing. They sent Lesar a telegram that, because of the time differences, misled us on the date of airing. In any event, he was in Houston when it reached his home.

So, none of us saw it. I heard you had Jesse Jackson following him.

I write to ask a favor with regard to this. My separate files will be winding up as part of a college archive. So, I would appreciate a sound tape of the interview and of Jackson, who has been conspicuous by his separation from any help in any aspect of investigation or court work. I would appreciate it if your people could make two so I can give one to the lawyers without having to dub it on my primitive equipment. They should be prepared for any possible misuse or misrepresentation in the future, most likely as part of a court-room desperation that at some near time will be real if the Supreme Court does not grant cert to the State. If Ray ever gets a trial, we will walk. In my opinion there is not enough for the case to go to the jury.

With this in mind you might want to bear in mind that serious problems sometimes impel consideration of drastic solutions. If there is to be something like this, the time is getting pretty close.

Thanks if you can do this little favor.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg