

Mr. Bill Dick
National Enquirer
600 South East Coast Ave.,
Lantana, Fla. 33462

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Dear Bill,

Because I'm in a damned-if-I-do/damned-if-I-don't situation I've decided to write, hoping to at least avoid repetition of what happened to me today.

I'm sure no ill was intended. But it has loused up two days for me at a time when I have fewer of them and more to try to do in each day while I have less capability.

So you can understand I'll explain my present situation.

You know of the thrombophlebitis of two years ago and that the damage from it was permanent and limiting. This year an arterial "embarrassment" was diagnosed. The extent of obstruction remains undetermined because as of now there is no indication of surgery and because there is hazard in the tests not made they are avoided unless surgery is indicated. When I was 62 I did not know how it felt to be getting old and was not, so far as I could tell, really getting old. Now I know what it is to be nearing 65. I feel it all the time. Sometimes, like today, too much.

The circulatory problems have me coming and going, so to speak, out in the arteries and back in the veins, obstructions in both. These problems are not willing to get along with each other. The arterial blockage tires me and what I have to do to coexist with the venous problems keeps me from lying down without a big deal I just never do. I have to wear special supports from the toes to the crotch for the vein troubles but I may not recline or fall asleep in them. They are a very necessary and very considerable nuisance. They have to be put on just so. To take them off or put them on means I have to get ~~XXXX~~ entirely undressed. To take a 10-minute nap requires a half-hour of before and after preparation. So I don't take a nap.

I can't keep my legs down for long. I can ride with others fairly well but I can't drive my own car very far. Getting to Washington now is also awkward, sometimes expensive for me. Unless I arrange private transportation seeing my dentist requires an entire day beginning at 5 a.m. There is a little Greyhound service between Frederick and Washington. Little and not really safe.

On my last return trip one blew a rear tire, the one I was sitting over. It seems that to economize they don't recap - they re-groove, which reduces the amount of rubber. This one just came apart where it had been grooved. Lead: Are the buses safe?

From a slight nudge on that trip I hemorrhaged^{thaged} internally about the area of a turkey egg. This is because I am on an anti-coagulant, rat poison, literally. Warfarin. To deter the formation of still other blood clots. As you may know, if a clot breaks loose it can be fatal. So I'm to avoid any falling, bruising, cutting, etc. I try. I want to live.

A week ago yesterday I made arrangements for what amounts to a chauffeured trip to our dentist for Ed and for me for today. Yesterday morning and thereafter there were many repetitions of warning of a heavy snowstorm. Ed and I decided that if the weather were bad I'd not go but if the roads were passable she would. Then your Les Wilson phoned to ask if he could come up this morning. I agreed, expecting not to be able to travel.

It then turned out that not only did we not have any snow - it was a beautiful day. Because I've given Wilson my word and believing he has started by the time the car gets here I stay home. Expecting him I spend the day on odds and ends not to interrupt serious work on another subject. And he does not come.

If he had called to let me know I'd have gone to Washington. I would have been back in time for him to be here in the afternoon if he had expected to be busy for the morning only. Lil held lunch for him after her return for almost two hours. That is when I phoned.

I can understand that he got busy and forgot to call, for which he did apologize.

I'm sure you can understand that I ought not have this waste of time and added time pressures of my own from it. What I did today a kid could have done for me. And now I'm throwing away the day after Xmas for the trip to the dentist on top of it. Then it will also cost me about \$25.00 in transportation costs in addition.

So at the least I'd like your people to know that I'm not a kid, have other things to do, and that they are to let me know immediately if they make an appointment they cannot keep. It will not always be like today but if they do not it will always cost me time and work that are now precious to me.

Under any conditions these things always cost me time for which only rarely am I paid. In the past couple of years alone a very great amount of time. Countless people at the Enquirer use me as a consultant only it never pays me as one.

You will recall that prior to your "retirement" I raised this question with you, as I did afterward when you were here. That proposal was turned down. And thereafter the time asked of me increased.

Several months ago you had a big one working. Must have had half the staff working on it. And at least half of that half talked to me. For hours over a period of days.

If some of these brainstormers were checked with me in advance I'm sure I could save the Enquirer much more than I would regard as a fair fee for consultancy. There have been such occasions - unpaid.

Of course there is more, not just negatives. I provide years of knowledge and experience. That I was not paid for the work over so many years merely makes an unfair situation that much more unfair.

I am aware that you do not control such decisions.

But someone does and if that someone wants his staff to be able to consult with me at any time and to be able to get help and to have some assurance of accuracy and dependability he should be willing to pay, as he pays others, from his garbage collector to his lawyer.

If I understand what can make an Enquirer story then I think there are some in what Stuart and Les mentioned to me. I also believe that they can survive your spread despite the attention from other papers and the self-styled experts who can lead to disasters. There is, without doubt, solid fact that is relevant to some. Even what I believe to be unfactual reporting by the federal agencies can be supported by what is factual. Take the bullet the Secret Service is said by Shanklin to have found - I have an FBI receipt for "a missile," a receipt it took me years of effort to get because its existence was officially denied. I have official records that were suppressed that are relevant to what your people have on the X-rays and other medical evidence. I think I can add importance to the record Les told me about, ^{the one in} which a fragment recovered from Governor Connally's arm was turned over by the late Dr. Gregory. I can add importance to Dr. Shires, as I've indicated to Les. I also have from these records what I believe may be more important than anything your people have mentioned. I have made no efforts with it and for the moment can't make any because I do not have the time.

What Stuart sent I should have tomorrow. What Les sent I should have Saturday. I'll go over both sets as soon as I receive them and note what I believe and see as possible. But now I won't be home on Tuesday until just before supper because of the Washington dentist's appointment. I'm compelled to go by bus and can't be back any sooner. Otherwise, with a car, I could be back not much after 1 p.m. However, if you have time pressures and it is important, the dentist's number is 202/W06-1080. My appointment is for 11 a.m. but I'll probably be there earlier.

You probably won't get this until Tuesday. But I don't know when you'll want to go with what you have. So on the off chance that your people will be in Washington again then and will either want to talk to me further or have me go over records or copy or want some of my records, the dentist is at the Chesterfield Apartments, Wisconsin Avenue and Macomb NW. His name is Silverman. His office is perhaps 15 minutes from the FBI building. It is an hour or less from Frederick.

Unless something develops in one of my FOIA lawsuits I expect to be home all day Wednesday. I'll be away part of Thursday morning for my weekly blood-test. (It determines how much rat poison I take daily for the following week.)

The one suit in which something is possible is the newest. It include a request for a temporary injunction against the coming release until they have acted on my request for a waiver of fees or in the alternative for the delivery of those records to me in time to be able to respond to press inquiries from them. The head and lead on the story in this morning's Post are misleading. I have neither the intention nor the desire to prevent the release of those records. I have been trying to get them released for many years. I seek to protect what remains of my rights and to deter further disinformation by officialdom.

Hope you have a good holiday.

Best regards,