

12/6/74

Dear Jon,

The hastiest thanks for your 12/3, its enclosures and the continuing calls from your client stations. Today KORL, Honolulu.

I'm deep into what I can do to analyze the State's lengthy "Memorandum" on the Ray case. It ought to be enough to get all the State's assistant DA disbarred, it is that deliberately false. But you can't say this because that would make trouble and defeat us. I'm merely informing you FYI. What this means, because Jim has a close deadline on response and no help other than from me, is that I must rush what I can do. And because of all the other things I also have to do, I have to do a more complete job than we can now use because whatever happens this will go up on appeal. That way, when we get to appeal stage, I'll have complete notes and quotes and comments, suggestions, recommendations, etc., on paper.

Particularly glad to get Chriss' coverage. We became friends.

Expected visitor just arrived.

Later, Jim told me you'd phoned him. He is under time pressure again. Responding to so crooked a court paper is not simple or easy.

MM What used to make a feature story I didn't learn until I went into town to pick my wife up. About 8 a.m., directly across the street from the sheriff's office in the county ~~offices~~ courthouse and with a firehouse not more than 150 in the other direction the old building housing the county Dept. of Social Service was for the first time noticed to be on fire. Two blocks away there is another firehouse. By the time I went toward it and was detoured at 3:30 p.m. it was more than a total loss. It is a great liability, a danger, and a demolition loss. One wonders how so close to a firehouse a fire could go undetected until it was too late. I happened to be in the mayor's office in an effort to help a friend who has a city problem when the chief of police, who I know, came in to report the situation and his plans for the night. He held out his hands and reported also that the director of the county's social services had just given him all her keys: ~~him~~ to the building and the various offices. The building then had only walls! What people do when they are hysterical! (Not criticism.)

But this is not the worst. I can remember in my volunteer fireman days that we had to rush to another firehouse elsewhere in the county because that firehouse was afire, out of control, and all its equipment in it.

I do not expect to be away Monday or Tuesday, as of now.

Thanks and best,

ZODIAC NEWS SERVICE

December 3, 1974

Dear Harold:

I've enclosed a few things I've been promising to send --
i.e. the Wecht article in Modern Medicine and the clippings
of the Nick Chriss articles on the Ray hearing.

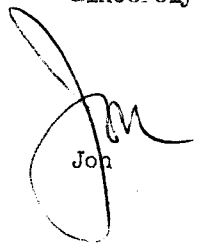
I sent the actual clippings because it was too much bother
to copy them and we don't need them back.

I talked briefly with Lesar last Friday and tried to call
him again at the beginning of this week without success.

I'm in a hurry now, but will call you maybe Friday or
next Monday or Tuesday.

Take care,

Sincerely



John

950 Howard Street, San Francisco, California 94103
(415) 956-3555