

Dear Les,

6/28/76

Hasty updatings.

6th circuit has refused to release Jim and Livingston. Jim is going to refuse to work with Livingston. Not anticipating this development I'd written 6th circuit, rather Phillips, after seeing a copy of the mealy-mouthed deceptive letter Bob wrote. I'd also written McRae a longer, stronger lecture but didn't want to send it without Jim seeing it. We are both so overloaded he hasn't read it yet.

I'm not doing anything improper. But I am trying to tell these eminences that justice does not consist of the dancing or what I've called ritualized minuets.

I think the courts are now scared because of the crazy thing Ray has done, not at their own political substitution of expediency over justice.

If Jim ~~stays~~ ^{stays} in I'll do/ all I can to help. As you know I drafted an amicus petition cert. I've not heard a word from Jim on that either.

My suggestion to him will be to accept the challenge and file a political petition cert. With this kind of court I think the best chance is on issue and realities so they can face the political rather than skip through baseless technicalities.

McRae finally asked about our move to depose Huie after the end of the evidentiary hearing. He had never acted. Again, Ray's silly suit forced it. I have drafted an 8,000 word affidavit on the need to preserve Huie's testimony, the legal gobledogoo for it. As soon as I finish this I have to get to reading and correcting it and then sending it to Jim. If he goes along with my approach I'm giving McRae no quarter and a lot of information, frequently coupled with a polite pointing out of how he foreclosed us from presenting that evidence when it was timely.

The Schweiker report cannot be dismissed as merely crazy. It is vicious, irresponsible, dishonest, flawed and wrong on basic fact and succeeds in being grossly unfair to the FBI and CIA, what I once would have considered an impossibility. He is making a political tool of it, on the one hand protecting Ford, who will be hurt by any exposures, and on the other already indicating a campaign against the Democrats, blaming them for the assassination itself, via Johnson and his White House staff. The report lacks any basis in reason or fact no matter how factual some of the details of the covering up are. It is also so careless they always spell your publisher's name with one "T." The approach itself is illogical, too. It comes straight from the CIA's line the purpose of which was to protect the CIA. There are a limit to the number of cudgels I can keep flailing but if anyone wants to go after this in a way that can be effective, I have the knowledge with which to do it and the documents and the personal experience with Schweiker. Plus so sensational stuff he suppressed in this report. Had he not suppressed it he could not have written the report.

The new legal situation makes knowing whether or not Huie has contracted a movie much more important. I think it can be enough with which to go back to 6th circuit before filing with the Supreme Court.

If I have not heard from you by the time I hear from Jerry again I'll have to send him what I've written. However, I have virtually all the same information and more from a westcoast source. Hagan has been in the Bay area flashing all the crap around. The trio have made the doctrine, story-line of their planned project explicit to others: Ray assassin, Stoner and Jerry conspirators. Best,