

11/23/76

Dear Les,

I think I sent you a copy of my 11/21 letter to Richard Sprague. I went into town and mailed it at the post office so he'd have it the next morning. Shortly after noon he was on a local TV talk show, looking as I've never seen him look. So unhappy I'd said simply, "He got your letter."

That evening he phoned Jim full of apologies for the serving of the subpoena on the Memphis Public Defender. Ought not have happened! He didn't know a thing about it. "He'll stay it. Etcetcetc."

Well, it would be easy to make a case that he runs the committee with public relations ploys. After this TV appearance after noon he did a Barbara Walters interview for the ABC net. This morning he had a breakfast session at the National Press Club.

There he confessed an ambition to interview Ray.

If this is a sample of the way he works he had to have an inside on the Yablonski case to get in with.

He wants to interview Ray. After acknowledging it would be improper without the lawyer's assent and the lawyer says no. Without asking the two of us who know Ray what to expect or anything about him.

"Course maybe he's read McMillan's book. Or seen him. McMillan was in town on Time, Inc.'s money celebrating the JFK assassination on TV and radio

McMillan's formula may be more appealing to him than investigation. Under the McMillan system fact is irrelevant and motive is what counts.

Imagine! These grownups never heard of Jimmy Carter and Playboy.

The FBI has another 500 pages of King records for me they've told Jim. Only they won't be ready until the end of the week. With what I know about their system/setip this is a fairly reasonable forecast of a planned leak staged so there is nothing I can do. But I would not have been able to anyway.

I'm getting a few very helpful clippings from the Memphis papers. These arrogant, power-mad Washington refugees from Grade C detective movies have given those cats the opening they see. I hope they fight long and hard and that I get copies of their public statements. To date there is enough, were this a normal case, to reopen it on violation of court orders and Ray's rights under the law and false swearing.

Lay on, MacBoth!

best,