

8/1/72 Howard, Where people are concerned I do what others, perhaps including you, consider a waste of time. You will recall my original letters to Ned accurately diagnosed emotional problems later confirmed by GRS. In writing to JP, I have sought to get him to consider the possibility and cited a family history indicating susceptibility and a record certainly subject to this interpretation. If I would prefer to forget about him entirely, I really cannot for he is well-intentioned and he is a human being. Therefore, because in its own way it addresses his original copout on his entirely irresponsible and I think equally unethical operation (in which he served no purpose, that having already been accomplished by GRS save for the involvement of the rabidly insane), I will be enclosing an editorial from today's Post and an excerpt relevant to it. You will note its use of Anderson's use of claimed good "conscience"? ~~and~~ You will recall Jerry's equally invalid invocation of the same claim to purity of purpose and dedication to alleged principle. If the record does not warrant hope that anything will now unfetter Jerry's mind and does prompt the conviction that he will avoid it as much as possible, I think you should consider sending him copies of these with the suggestion that he ask himself, not tell you, whether or not he can see a parallel. He will oppose anything from me, more now than ever. There is a slight chance he might consider it from you. I would not consider it inappropriate to send copies to SM and GRS, in those cases without letters. If in my haste I do not mark these clips for my Anderson file (and I have one), please so indicate on (no rush) return. You will understand, I hope, that regardless of how JP reacts, it can't change the past, can't undo anything. The one thing it might do is help him to understand himself, and perhaps discourage future similar insanities, ego-trips and arrogances. If not to seek the help I feel he needs. HW