

7/17/68

Dear Barbara,

In addition to the other, minor successes of my recent trip to your once-fair city, I lost 10 pounds, a major achievement!

But it is not this about which I gloat. The judge dressed Bringuier and Marquez-Diaz down today, refused, as we demanded, to let them withdraw the case, and gave them 30 days to go about beginning by really serving us, instead of the using the illegal propaganda devices employed to now. He told them they could not endlessly file the suit that had been dismissed for cause and, as I understand it, indicated that were he to allow them to withdraw, they would have to pay costs and attorney's fees. They are permanently lost in state court and the same case, complete with the same errors, not all of which are typographical, has already been decided in federal court. The lawyer's term is "res adjudicata". It has been decided.

We'll see what happens. I tell you this because the papers never print the other side. They never carried a story when his first suit was dismissed with cause, and they never mentioned what they knew, how he pretended he had amended that suit and had the US Marshall serve as an "amended complaint" what was not a Xeroxed copy of the rough draft of the case thrown out. They knew, because their reporter did not write the story Bringuier then wanted, that he had again sued me. This was back in February. We charged in court that these were not law suits, they were harassments intended to abridge constitutional rights. If the case is thrown out I think I have made the necessary arrangements to countersuit along these lines.

I saw Jim only once aside from at your house and couldn't then mention the letter. Louis agrees with me. If it is not too late and it can be done in a way that satisfied you there is no chance for hurting you, I think and Louis also does, that it should be. Speak to people, please, and have a Xerox of the envelope sent me. It can be important. I am still waiting for that Warren Easton 1928 jewel. I could have had it printed if I'd have had it when I got home. I did an answer to Epstein which was syndicated today and will appear in BOOKS next week, with documents and pictures.

Remember those things about which you were going to write me? Hope you can find time.... Benn swimming three times a day minimum since returning and with the privacy we enjoy, as I did when a boy. Good for the spirits and the body. Still winded easily, though. Lots to rebuild but I'm battening and unfatening for the long cull! Regards to everyone,

Sincerely,