

10/4/70

Dear Paul,

Thursday Bud mentioned that you'd been in D.C. recently and something about your wire-tapping problem and the futility of trying to do something about it under criminal law. I'd seen a brief news story on this wire-tapping some time ago. Bud also indicated who you think is behind it and your personal estimate of that person.

Not being a lawyer, I risk carrying coals to Newcastle.

In recent years I've become impressed (perhaps it would be more accurate to say "depressed") with the lack of faith in the law by many lawyers. They too often assume it will not work, or cannot, and do not try and make it work. I think this is wrong. But I am also aware of the fact that trying to make the law work can be costly.

However, I raise this question with you: Have you exhausted the possibilities of civil law? I think it holds enormous possibilities for you—especially for you, with what you should know, aside from what you might suspect.

Most important of these possibilities is pre-trial discovery proceedings. This need not be the more costly deposition-taking. In fact, interrogatories might be preferable.

Is it not possible that influence can not be brought to bear as easily in a civil case?

I suggest that you also might get some fat that some day might go on the right fire, too.

I'd thought, from what you'd written earlier, that you might be in L.A. by now. Hope things are going well for you.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg