

Rt. 8, Frederick, Md, 21701  
7/14/74

Dear Arvin,

Because of one of the purposes of this letter I delayed writing it until I completed two chapters of my Watergate book. You saw some of the material for one, on the Douglas operation. The second deals with Fortas.

I feel better having the drafts done because in them my views are clear and will not be influenced by anything. I had enough in my own files. We never got to talking about the Fortas matter. While I then did no investigating, I think I am an analyst and I had enough in what was published. Even the Javits bit, the Rogers firms' warning to him and a few other things like that. What I wrote of this contemporaneously was edited out before ~~Frame-Up~~ was published. I regarded it as an essential step in the development of American authoritarianism.

Now that I have written this, I ask if you have access to anything that can be relevant to its having been a Nixon job. I make that case with what I have. I seek further documentation if it is available without any great effort by anyone.

Were it not that I believe it will be too painful to him I would ask Fortas. Perhaps I may yet.

I find Lambert an interesting cat, with only Nixonian interests in his "investigations." Fortas, LBJ, JFK, Tydings. But not Nixon and his gangsters. Ditto for Life, which went after Ed Long and Garrison but not the big and well-known crooks. I mean the really dishonest. Those they never touched. This, naturally, makes me want anything that might be easily available on him. ...

The first time I saw Bud after I got your note of the 20th I gave him a copy. He then said nothing and has said nothing since. I expect nothing.

My work on this Watergate book has been delayed by three things: the theft of some of my materials and work on two other books. However, I am nearing the end of a long draft. With misgivings. About the writing, not the content.

On one book I had a deal with a friend who changed his mind after my part was done. It was to have been an immediate book, in my underground format, all facsimile reproduction. Title, "I Am Not a Crook," subtitle, "The Sayings of Chairman Richard." It is what nobody has done, a selection of all his released transcripts say on about 50 subjects, collected into about a half-dozen general breakdowns. These are juxtaposed with other official Nixon statements. ~~It~~ These also original typescripts. My friend decided to make a joke of it by reducing it to what I believe would be pointless ridicule in the hope I believe to be a futility of mass-market interest. The work is ready for editing. I have given a xerox to another friend who is with a large publisher. Because they are paperback I don't think that unless they see enough to place it with a hardback publisher they'll go for it because an unpromoted paperback original just can't sell and the economics almost always preclude real original paperback promotions.

The other book is done as much as I can do it until my wife can type what I've written. I can't hire a typist. It is based on a truly sensational document that I obtained properly because of official impropriety. I believe I am to be used in this and that if I don't allow myself to be used fast enough it will be given to someone else. However, I have resisted the temptation to just use the document and have written a text that should preclude misuse if I can get the thing out. My friend Jim Lesar, Bud's and my associate in the King/Ray case, says he will try to borrow the money to pay the printer. We'll thereafter worry about getting it distributed because we are both so overly busy we can't even think of it and if nothing else we'll have it available for use by the Congress if what I can see does eventuate. Except for the text I have written and a legal memorandum Lesar is providing and will have retyped this ~~coming~~ week, all I need do is complete the preparation of the extensive documentary appendix about 2/3 of which is *done*.

There will then remain only the indexing. Not a big job. The real question is time to do what has to be done. This can be an important work or it can be a dud if I can't do anything with it. If it remains unknown <sup>now</sup> it will still be important in the future, when it can mean nothing to me.

On the stolen documents: I have known for a long time that I am the subject of official interest. However, I have little choice but to ignore it because there is nothing I can do about it. To worry about these things is to emasculate ones self. So, I have no idea who stole them or when they were stolen or even if it was one theft.

I don't even know all that was stolen or whether I gave you copies of any. It is possible some were in my motel room when I was down there. I had put what I could in my pockets. I didn't want to carry the cheap plastic portfolio I had them in with me when you and Maggie took me to dinner in a nice place. It had an ad on it and it was cheap, so it would not have looked good. It was, however, adequate for carrying papers.

I do not need the incorporation papers, which were unclear anyway. Nor do I need two documents on Senate stationery quoting transcripts by typescript page numbers. However, if it presents no problem to you - and only if it does not - I'd appreciate the return of anything else. Keep copies if you'd like. If you have them, that is. Please do not go to any trouble. I've already written that I was ripped off and generally what was taken. I can make out with recollection for the writing, even if it means I can't cite a source. It is not libellous.

If you have been following Watergate "news" don't be taken in by the pretended Baker "expose" of the CIA. It is not that and it is part of Nixon's defense.

When I finish this work I will write the speakers' bureau as you suggested. I had drafted a letter. It awaited my wife's retyping when I pulled a muscle that laid me low ~~xxxx~~ for about a month. By then these things had come my way and I felt they required me to put the time into them that I have.

Please don't go to any real trouble to get copies for me if they are not readily available to you. Only if they are no trouble.

Best to you both,

# MEMO

From  
Arvin K. Rothschild

To

June 20, 1974

Dear Harold:

Thanks for your letters which I do appreciate. Regrettably, I have been working very hard to line up either a business or a job since I have resigned as president of UMC. Liquidation of the company is nearing an end.

I have, however, forwarded a copy of your long letter to Mr. W. to be held in a file for his review on his return from Europe late this month. In essence, I believe Bud's influence will be much more powerful than mine since Bud is doing some legal things for Mr. W. I earnestly suggest you urge Bud to intercede on the publishing venture you propose.

Hope you have a good session with Martin Price who I have never met but who sounds like a good guy. The best of everything to you and your wife,

Sincerely,

