

1/3/69

Prospective witnesses and other things.

Dear Moo,

Herewith are memos going into the following people as witnesses, pro and con. Please do not forget the con, and I resist the obvious pun:

Mr. and Mrs. Phil Willis;
Abraham Zspruder, possibly Dick Billings and David Chandler;
Mrs. Carolyn Arnold, possibly with the Howeladys;
Roger Craig (and after writing it I heard from Burton that even he is afraid of Craig as a witness);
S.M.Holland.

I know I hurried too much to get these off today, but I had a few other things to do. In fact, I'm having to make a special trip into town to mail these so you can have them, hopefully, Monday morning. I'll get more done tonight and I'll get them off tomorrow. You should have that Tuesday. I forgot to mail what I took to town this morning, when I had to take Lil in, so if you get two in the same mail, it is not because I didn't intend to break up your outside reading. Don't want to strain your eyes. Seriously, I am sorry to have had to rush. Lil went over them to see if they make sense. She thinks they could make more sense, but such is my tortured syntax. She also thinks I should try and patent some of the typing of this machine. Gentle wife!

Please do not complain any more when I try and get three hours sleep! I spoke to Dr. Wecht today, he is quite willing - I think more than that - and will be in New Orleans, not at your expense, just before the scheduled date of the trial. I got him to advance his departure time so he could speak to Jim and you if you were so inclined. He agreed. With neither of you in the office I spoke to Lou, despite the best efforts of Mama Bell, and left the message for Jim. Wecht adds to Nichols credentials experience with the Pittsburgh, Pa., crime lab. I hope I can be there when Wecht is, so I can show him some of my unpublished data. If the trial is delayed, I think I should go to Pittsburgh and do this. I think it will help. But I do not want this material used unless it is necessary, as I told you. In any event, he is scheduled to be there for scientific purposes the 17th and 18th, and is willing to get there earlier the 17th. Remember, he is both a doctor and a lawyer, a real expert in forensic medicine. Read the appendix he wrote for Thompson's book. Do you need any of mine?

I also got in touch with one of my press friends about the Foreman rumor. He phoned Foreman who was mad about it or feigned it, asking "who told you?" and then adding, "Well, I guess I know". Foreman would not let him tape, would not affirm or deny. He refused to deny. He also spoke to Dymond, who was explicit in his denial and agreed he has said they will do nothing to delay the trial. He says he is ready now, and he will not delay it. Foreman's attitude was described to me as "hostile and suspicious". I got the callback after I spoke to Lou so I could not tell him.

That's all for now.

Sincerely,

Please give Lou my letter to Lillian Cohen to read. He says he hasn't seen it.

Harold Weisberg