

11/3/74

Thomas,

Your bird (who?) whispered true.

Must returned from long, successful Ray hearing which followed closely upon also exhausting and difficult discovery trip, unprecedented in habeas corpus until this time.

Too much to do in note-making alone for explanations.

Printer has not as yet delivered any copies to me.

For a short period I'll be withholding book until possibilities of ancillary sales are tested. As you realize, these can be more important and in this case, with 100% costs borrowed and accumulating interest, need is great.

However, I do not have any copies. I had to send proofs for attempted sale subsidiary rights. Should have copies seen.

Meanwhile, the needs of the Ray case press heavily, so they'll take precedent over all else, including selfish needs.

When I can I'll be sending copies out. Credit no problem with you or anyone.

Time- even for addressing envelopes, is a real problem.

I don't think it is possible for you or anyone else to appreciate the intensity with which I have had to work and its toll and the accumulation of undone work it causes.

The only real reason I answer is your inferences, whether contrived or psychological or sincere. My questions have nothing to do with your financial responsibility.

You have probably read Waldren's pieces, which began with skepticism and the unreal about conspiracies (not relevant in this hearing anyway). So for fun and evaluation of what was not in papers, these two Waldren stories:

Thursday, after I had just kidnapped the last two of the State's rebuttal witnesses, both kept secret until appearance, the State asked for a recess to consider its course. (All its rebuttal witness having been kidnapped!) I went into the hall for ~~smoke~~ a smoke. Martin followed, putting his bears arm around me and asking, straight-face: "Harold, you old bastard, don't you know what overkill is?"

Day before, similar circumstances, recess and smoke, he came up to me with:

"Harold, aren't you ashamed of yourself?" I asked why.

"Fucking up the whole FBI, the State of Tennessee and Shelby County officials!"

The record in this longest of evidentiary hearings under habeas corpus is not as much an exaggeration of Martin's representation as the joking suggests.

But the effort it required and the fighting against the heaviest and most powerful odds carried out by the most uninhibited in the abuse of power was enormous and so very wearing!

When I have the books and the possibilities of subsidiary uses are ~~tried~~ tried and exhausted (in real terms they are few) they'll go out in order of receipt of requests. Bookstore price is \$6.00 each, by mail \$6.25. Your check will not expedite shipping, which will be controlled by realities, not credit ratings.

I have not read nor have I heard of Cyril's latest. My stomach is easier for it.

If you want a measure of my judgement in such matters, even when I am entirely alone, ask Sylvia about him. And if you do, convey my best.

10/30/74

Dear Harold,

A bird whispered in my right ear
you had published or had had published
another volume in your Whitewash series.
I was happy to hear it.

Will you send me two copies, please?
If you trust me send the copies with a
bill and I'll remit at once because
I know from your letters you are
in need of money. If you don't trust
me send me a bill or write me a
note with the price and I'll remit
promptly to speed delivery of the books.
Have you read Cyril Wecht's latest?

Expectantly
Thomas Stamm

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