

Dear Nancy,

12/14/78

Once I got to Bridgewater everything was fine, including the audiences. But until then my experiences were like yours, plus the problems for the weather.

First they did not return the contract for months. This meant that by the time I knew it was set the airlines were virtually sold out. Then they specified as they had asked, an 11 a.m. seminar which turned out to be a press conference. This is why I had to go up the day before.

I left in 6" of snow, which was no problem here with an experienced cab driver and superhighway to National Airport. Only the plane was 90 minutes late getting to D.C. Bob Katz and a friend wanted to meet me - and Bob would have driven me to Bridgewater if we'd not both expected I'd be able to take the limo for \$10. Checked the limo schedule and the limo desk and Bob, a friend of his and I had lunch.

For about 4 hours, mostly in the cold and wind, I awaited the limo that as of the time I left for a Boston motel never came. All the time I kept getting optimistic reports of minor delays, several of the thing inside the airport and on its way to that part of the terminal. Long after dark, with the motel in a working-class residential neighborhood having no dining room, I walked six blocks through the snow to a ~~sata~~ restaurant and back.

I'd phoned the motel at which I had reservations at Brockton to say I could not get there and cancel that night. Only then did I learn that the college also had me slated to conduct a 9 a.m. polysci class. This meant no chances with limos and a cab to the college, \$\$\$ again. But beginning with an excellent class and thoroughly responsible people and including all the college people I met it was fine. With one exception: they stuck me with the cab from Boston even though the contract did not provide for the polysci class freebee I'm always willing to throw in.

That day went from 5 a.m. to midnight. The lecture held the audience until I had to knock it off after three hours, two or more of questioning. Then I had my supports to wash and bags to get in order for the limo about 6 a.m. (If I hadn't phoned the Hudson office in Boston I'd not have gotten it because when they posted the reservation they tabbed it to the wrong Brockton Motel!)

After a Baltimore appearance a day in D.C. helping Jim prepare for the assassins and John, who we saw only in the holding cell at U.S. courthouse, never alone. The coverage of the next day's hearings we saw on net TV was nasty on ABC but pretty fair on CBS and NBC. All showed what led to Jim's challenge to Stokes and one of two reported 'tokens' backing down. Stokes was smarting from not being able to handle the prior lawyers like Lane and Flo Kennedy so he thought he'd rough the flower boy up a bit. Also they have no case at all against John so he had to try to keep Jim from correcting their overt lies as I whispered to him. Once when Stokes threatened Jim more than most times Jim complained that Stokes would not let him get a word in edgewise. It is then that Stokes called him a disgrace which, after a slight pause, led Jim to ask him to repeat the libel without immunity.

The weather was so bad and the radio reports so ominous I decided not to phone you and tell you where I was because I felt it would have been unwise for you and Liz to drive in that kind of weather without need. I'm sorry because it would have been good to see you both again and to be able to chat.

Right, hold the mailing of the tapes until after Xmas to be safe. I look forward to them. The Akai is not yet wired in!!! so I've no urgent need for reel tapes. I can get BASF's in D.C. for about \$5.00 if I buy by the dozen so unless you can beat that appreciably don't both but thanks.

There is nothing dependable in the Moldea book re the assassination so don't bother with the xeroxing but thanks for the thoughtfulfulness and the offer. After I

was sent the Playboy condensation and read in the hype that the Fund for Investigative Journalism had backed Moldea I wrote my friend who runs it and told him that with Moldea and the assassinations part of his tale he'd backed a looser and a disinformation. He phoned me and asked my permission to give Moldea my letter and I agreed. Moldea phoned me and thought the gross error was not his fault because he'd hired a researcher. Who? Nike Ewing, ghost of the Fensterwald insanities. It is all rubbish. Worse. Rubbish does not contaminate minds. I don't know about the Hoffa part but some of his (Moldea's) past connections do not lead me to believe he is impartial or to be depended on as balanced.

I've made an effort to get the transcripts sent to you after last time and now I'll make another, a different one. If you don't have it by the first of the year let me know. Lil would do the copying except that we await a service call with a new drum for the machine and when it is repaired she is stacked up with copying of new records, Dallas and New Orleans. (By the way, I am the one who got the Bronson stuff. It was not in the Hq. releases. It was hidden in the Dallas files, my C.A.78-0322. There is much more in them and the New Orleans files that have backed up and those on Marina.)

It will not be surprising if your papers now carry Lane/Jim Jones stories that the Times and Post do not carry so if you see any I'd appreciate xeroxes, for now and for the archive. Occasionally I'm asked about him. If he fell down in an uncleaned barnyard he'd get up with a monopoly on fertilizer and the rest of us would be besmirched, as usual. If he were working for the errant agencies he would be less effective an agent for them than by being himself and detached from them he actually is.

We hope you have a good holiday and not by being snowed in this year.

Our best,

9 December 1978

Dear Harold:

I certainly hope that your dealings with Bridgewater went off a bit better than ours-not only could we not find out where you were speaking but we couldn't even find out if you were still scheduled to speak-as so many things were cancelled due to the ice storm.

Liz and I saw you and Jim Lesar in what the media made appear to be a very unflattering exchange with Congressman Stokes-all that made the evening news up here was Jim asking him to step outside with no reason shown for the heated exchange. It made Jim appear to be like another Mark Lane, which I know from my brief meeting with him is certainly not the case. Its unfortunate now that so many people now associate an interest in political assassination with the Mark Lane type personality. I wonder how he thinks he can maintain any sense of credibility when one day he's defending James Earl Ray and the next, he's with the Jonestown crowd-or what's left of them.

Not much appeared in the newspapers up here on the assassination hearings last November. Its too bad the New York Times was on strike during most of the public hearings, as their coverage is usually pretty good.

A few weeks ago, I came across a book that I found interesting, and which you might be interested in knowing about-if you don't already know about it-Dan E. Moldea's book The Hoffa

Wars-the section on the teamsters-Mafia-Kennedys, ~~is a good summary of~~  
~~available information.~~ If you're interested, I'll try and xerox that chapter and send it along to you at a later date.

Speaking of mailing things, Jim Lesar never did send me that transcript. But I can fully understand why not, with his appearance before the Stokes' witch hunt and all the work involved in that.

Also, I have not forgotten your jazz tapes. They are just about finished and sitting in a small box waiting to be mailed. I am, however, considering waiting off until after Christmas to mail them as I really don't want them to get lost in the mounds of Christmas mail. So far, I've made for you a Best of Basie tape (mid-1930's recording),, Jelly Roll Morton piano solo and Hot Seven tape, a Bud Freeman-Jack Teagarden tape, Bechet-Armstrong tape, and finally Henry "Red" Allen tape. There's no bebop there-and it should be just your and Lil's taste. Incidentally, if you'd like me to keep an eye out for 1800' Scotch tape, I'll be glad to. Somehow, \$8 per tape seems high-although I really don't know as I never have looked for reel tape recently.

Well, I am really sorry that we didn't get to see you at Bridgewater-but I'm sure that you understand that with the driving as bad as it was, we didn't want to drive all that way to be personally told that you weren't there-or worse yet, not be able to find where you were...

~~WRTT~~ Liz and I hope you both have a pleasant holiday season.

sincerely,

Nancy