

Dear Wayne, *Christman*

11/16/74

Your unsated letter on the surveillance on both of us, in an envelope postmarked four days ago, the 13th, came this morning. I have only now, in midafternoon, gotten to it.

What if anything you want to do with it must be your decision. I'll suggest how I can help if you elect to do anything and I sure as hell could think of what I'd be attempting were I in your position!

However, your account of the surveillance, which was on both of us not just you, is not as specific as it could be. So I ask you to please take time for all the specifics possible, including names, dates, agencies, etc. Please spell it out in full because, as I believe I told you, I also set a trap in my motel room and it was sprung. I anticipated something of this sort, so I carried no attache case, only a tape recorder, camera and Stone's notebook. Long before this I recorded the details of the springing of this trap. My room was entered and searched.

Because I did, strictly, adhere to the obligations imposed upon me you have no way of knowing what I was questioning you about when we were not just engaged in friendly conversation. Meaning personal. About part of this I am no longer under wraps but in the event you do something about it or it becomes possible for me to, I believe it is better that I not give you any inkling now. Until now I haven't. You have no way of knowing, unless you made an exceedingly shrewd guess, of which you have given me inkling, what the major area of my interest was.

However, Jim Lear learned of it after the fact and was present when I conducted an interview based on it. I have the only tapes, signed and dated by the interviewee. More than this I tell you only that it has the makings of a major scandal, one that need not be only local. This tape will disclose that I did some checking on some of your account and a minor departure from it. Or, enough to identify you as the source and the subject and that was as opposite as improper as it is possible for one to be. Please try to understand that as in the past, when you did not question me, my ellipsis is motivated not by hiding but had the intent of preserving your integrity and mine and of making a record that will be untainted.

Now, about a second aspect of what I was seeking information from you about: you may have little difficulty in identifying it but I will not spell it out. I will say of it only that I know of nothing I could do that would have been more in the interest of your former employer and that you put me in a position to do what I did do. This ranged from locating a witnesses whose whereabouts were supposed to be unknown to seeing a lawyer. On that meeting with him I have dated notes. He will remember it, I am confident. And I had a witness with me. Because of the fact that today's mail included something mailed to me mere than a month ago, properly and clearly addressed and overtly opened, with the distance about 50 miles, I'll add no more, I will add but one additional detail: it was after the court session of 10/17 and prior to the beginning of the hearing 10/22.

You will also remember that there came a time when you were subpoenaed as a State witness when you were in fact a witness to nothing that was before Judge McRae. You ~~wrote~~ wrote a memo on this, unfortunately also not dated. However, after you gave it to me, I did do certain things. This included informing my colleagues and writing dated memos. When these steps resulted in nothing being done I took certain other steps to which there are a number of witnesses and means by which the date can be established. There was a strong reaction from a source I will not identify and of this there is also a record. I think but I do not know for sure that these steps frustrated what ~~was~~ was planned.

Before getting to other matters that require my attention, I remind you that I asked you to get for me copies of public records of which I had learned not from you but from a Memphis lawyer. It had been my intention to pay your costs back but after you were subpoenaed you believed it best that I not do this so I did not. I believe the actual cost was \$12.00. These copies you did obtain for me, apparently also under surveillance, are in the federal court record. (In fact, I have no other copies.) And this was anything but not in the interest of your then employer. It would have cost nothing had I had the time to do this

this personally. But I had to be elsewhere at that time and thus could not do what is the right of any person. You did no more than obtain copies of public records. I remind you that you reported a coincidence to me: these identical records were at that moment being copied for another you said was unknown to you. There was no other reference to these entirely public records when I was in Memphis, to my knowledge. They did go into the record of the federal district court, which was under an exceptional order from the sixth circuit court of appeals. No other use was made of them.

And all of this was, if not very much in the interest of your then employer, at the very least not against it. I think it was much to your employer's interest.

To complete my file on this I ask that you please send me a xerox of the check with which you paid for this. ¹our personal check.

Having said these things I want to add more. If it is within my capability to do anything about this intrusion into my rights and obligations, I fully intend to do this. This is but one of the reasons I ask that you give me all the details, no matter how slight they may appear to you, of this surveillance, including names, dates, etc. I also regard it as not irrelevant to my official function the last two times I was in Memphis.

Before I left Memphis I mailed a letter to a friend. If I do not know the exact time or place, I believe it was at the mail slot in the motel in which my room was searched. That mail slot is at the bellman's stand. The odd thing is that the friend to whom I wrote reports the postmark on that letter is two days after I left Memphis.

This is hardly normal post office inefficiency.

So, please do all you can to prepare me for what I would like to be able to do.

And best of luck in your new career.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg