

Mr. Kevin Walsh
P.O. Box 8869
Wash., D.C. 20003

11/4/76

Dear Kevin,

Jim, I am sure, appreciates your letter of the first as much as I do. For us both many thanks.

Your concern with the ethical is gratifying to me. I detected this concern ~~me~~ when you were here because I did not attribute any ulterior motive to your forthrightness. In return, in the event I did not go into it when you were here, let me recount how I addressed this first with Sprague and later with the others with whom you saw me.

Please excuse the haste and the uncorrected typos. I'm deep in work I must complete in time to give it to Jim tomorrow, what is relevant to this suit. Discovery material.

I told Sprague - and I mean it - that I am prepared to give him everything he wants or I think he can use, regardless of the cost to me. I made it clear that I recognize this can mean the total loss of all literary rights. However, I also said that I had worked on the Hill, and lived and observed for a long time. From this I would first await the signs I need, ranging from good faith to ability to control committee and staff. He showed no reaction, except to nod his head in agreement when he expressed agreement and said that under reversed conditions this would be his position. I went even farther. I said that while Congress can do and demand what I cannot I could conceive of a legal situation in which they might want to associate with some of my suits because of the priority I have. They can be stonewalled by the FBI, etc. I said that with Jim's okay I'd be satisfied with this after the first of the year if I am at all satisfied.

Earlier, as I recall the evening of 9/15, Rick asked me for a memo. I did it and another Fensterwald asked for all off the tops of the head to mail them immediately. What they include that I did not go into with the staff or Sprague is that if I am not satisfied I'll do my own thing my own way. I went even farther with Bud and gave him to understand that I regard my files as immune and that if I am not completely satisfied they will not be available. That I'd respond to a subpoena if any in person and would be responsive but I'd volunteer nothing. I hope you can understand that my reasons were not in any case selfish.

So there is a possibility of conflict of interest that you do not indicate. It does not in any sense trouble me with you. Don't worry about it.

Your letter reminds me of so many efforts I've made to obtain help from the bright and energetic younger ones. Even to an editor-in-residence.

Getting the Archives records independently is a good idea. I have found in the past that this sometimes turns up what was not provided earlier. Including in this case. Let me know the cost and I'll repay you. Or advance the money if you need it. Please also keep what you get separately, give it to Jim and he'll keep them and make copies for you to keep yourself, unless you can find time to do this. If you do please make two copies, keeping one, and I'll pay you back.

I've been hoping to find time to write a friend who is a member of the society of former agents. There is a juicy point in what you've done: they've refused to tell us how to reach the former agents we may want to depose, alleging confidentiality, in 1996 claiming I'd harras them. Please add Marion E. Williams, Layndal Shaneyfelt, Robert Razier and any others of whom you can think. You will find that Williams, who executed a farout affidavit in the first case, 2301-70, is becoming important all over again.

If you do not go to work for the committee, there is much more that I have relevant to this. I'd like you to go over it as I am now. I'll be returning from a trip 11/14. If you'd care to crash you'd be welcome here. I have an extra typewriter or two. In fact, Lamore says he is going to buy one we had overhauled preparatory to selling it as excess.

I'm gradually putting together the parts of their new engine for suppression. It is indicated in the discovery material more clearly that Jim and I perceived it immediately. As you may yet learn, I welcome examination and opinion other than mine. It is not impossible that you or anyone else may see what I miss.

In this case it is more than usually important because we are going to be able to examine these people under oath, including the former agents. Unless as I suspect they may appeal at the last minute, if that time is not already past. They'll be foolish to appeal on that basis, wiser to wait and contrive another.

If the foregoing is unclear, I now have some of the internal correspondence, memos, etc., and notations on records. There is so much to do I'm not able to take time now even to record all the files referred to. This should be done, of course.

On the committee again: Donovan said he'd be coming up the next week. He said he'd take a motel room and bring a copying machine with him. I did not extend this offer but he did say it. Akers came for a backgrounding on the King case and tips for a trip to Memphis. He later spoke to Jim about this. They asked something of Jim. Jim asked in return for copies of what they obtained that it would not be improper to provide for Ray's defense. They were to have gone to see him but after some time have not. Donovan has not been here, written or phoned. I've taken no initiatives and plan none. I am awaiting a performance record. However, when I've put in several consecutive 20-hour days I have no real regrets over not having had to spend more time this way.

Oh, yes. I indicated to both Donovan and Akers that if Lane has anything to do with their investigation on this basis alone I probably will not. Ozer seemed unwilling to understand this or what I believed important to that understanding. Not so of the others. On King this is certain and inflexible. It is probable on JFK. I do not have time to undo any more of his messing up and the needs of his mind, self concept and commercializations. If their independent judgement is not good enough to encompass this they are bound to be losers.

Hastily, and again thanks,

cc: Jim Lesar

I'll be in D.C. tomorrow but not at the hours you say you can be reached by phone

P. O. Box 8869
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20003
1 Nov. '76

Harold Weisberg
Old Retriever Rd
Rt. 12
Frederick, Md. 21701

Dear Harold,

This is in regard to the copies of Interrogatories you provided me last week. I am today requesting all of the correspondence listed in item # 6 from the Archives. Expecting a search period of one week and the factor of cost for reproduction (20¢) per page I will hold off on purchasing copies of same. Aside from this you perhaps already have most of them. I would like to gather a complete set so perhaps something can be arranged ?

In regard to item #5 c,d, and e please be advised of the following:

The Membership Directory of The Society of Former Special Agents of The F.B.I. lists William R. Heilman Jr. as having served '42 to '70 and now residing at # 4 Seafarers Drive, Ormond Beach, Fla 32074. Henry B. Heiberger is listed as having served '47 to '73 and been a Chemist-Consultant. His residence is # 10007 Portland Rd., Silver Spring, Md. 20901. Charles L. Killion served '48 to '73 and is now Regional Director of the N. Va. Bureau of Forensic Sciences at #2714 Dorr Ave, P.O. Box 486, Merrifield, Va., 22116. He resides at #2429 Holt St., Vienna, Va. 22180.

The Bureau's responses are interesting and I'd like to comment in some detail on a couple of the items with which I'm familiar after doing a little research and review. Offhand item # 23 a is , at least given current sophistication, now within the realm of N.A.A. I raise this because it goes to what is in my opinion on what is most important. (ie... what can be better done today)

We did not get into this but I wanted to raise it with you at some relevant point.... in the event the new Committee does hire me it will entail a security clearance and probably some clear direction and/or restriction in relations with critics which ~~is~~ I'm sure you'd respect my keeping my word on. This may all not take place but in anticipation I'd like to share whatever possible prior to same. If you or Jim would like to get in touch by phone to speed things up my home number (early am or after 9 pm best) is 547-0726.

Thank You,
Kevin
Kevin Walsh

c.c. Atty. Jim Lesar, 1231 4th ST., S.W. Wash.D.C.