

12 July 1976

Dear Harold:

Herewith some brief replies to some of your recent questions, along with the enclosed.

Yr letter of July 4: we never have run into the WH leak about Schweiker as a possible VP choice, either in the newspapers we see or in the electronic media. As far as we're concerned, you're the only source we've had it from.

Also yr July 4 letter, we've seen nor heard nothing of David Phillips' appearance on PBS the night of the Schweiker report. We'll watch for anything on both these items, but don't expect to run into anything this late.

Yr July 7th, the locals have been ignoring Lane for a long time, and the treatment appears to be continuing. In other words, no word here of ~~ix~~ his allegation that Bringuier did the PR work for Oswald.

We do have a clipping, enclosed, about Ruby's alleged meetings with Castro.

Other stuff enclosed deals mostly with the FBI's clean-up campaign, so-called, some of which may include a morsel or two you haven't seen.

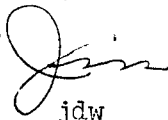
It would be madness, at this distance and with my imperfect understanding of the Ray situation, for me to try to give you any semblance of advice about what you and Lesar should do about the campaign by the networks to get Ray to give one of them an interview. I do agree fully with your <sup>suspicion</sup> that they're after a splashy show, not real information. And you may be correct in your suspicion that Rather imagines he can solve the case.

My one certain feeling is that while I don't fully understand Lesar's situation vis-a-vis the court and his status as Ray's attorney (and probably would be no better off if I did), I do nevertheless feel that the first priority in this situation probably has to be for neither of you to do anything which can jeopardize his status as an attorney. That seems central to me. Beyond that, I think you both should think first of yourselves as a functioning team and try to preserve that, doing nothing to impair the effectiveness of that team.

Beyond that I can have no real opinion. Many of your letters and memos are far from clear when read here. You know perfectly well what you're saying, but much is left out and even more is written with the assumption I have more legal knowledge and experience than I do and that I have a good working knowledge of all the people and issues with which you deal. I'm able to infer some, but there is much that is not clear, partly because there is no real necessity for it to be clear but also because you sometimes assume I have more background on tap than actually is the case in many instances. I do read practically everything you send, in an effort to keep current, but that doesn't mean I fully understand everything.

Sorry I can't be more helpful, but this is clearly a touchy situation where any advice ought to be based on real knowledge and experience. I'm doing you a favor by recognizing my own limitations.

Best,



jdw

Dear Jim,

7/15/76

Thanks for the clips with and the explanations in your 7/12.

I do think that too often I forget that what is in my mind may not be in the minds of ~~the~~ others. I guess this is particularly true of what I write people like Jim and ~~Howard~~ Howard, whose knowledge others do not have. Sorry. I send the carbons on the chance they can be informative or interesting.

If I did not tell you, JL and I decided to let things having to do with Ray work themselves out except with the courts, where he insisted on a fee. I asked him to stipulate other conditions, but if there is to be a post-petition cert connection that will be time enough now.

Jerry has fallen silent again. I think he awaits The Word. I'll hear, I think. He can be and often is helpful in letting me know what is going on.

As what you'll get will indicate, I'm not only euphoric about the appeals spectro decision but again, pressuring JL to let me load for bear. I'll be sending that decision. I think you'll get enough out of it. Notice if I recall correctly how few citations of case law there are. If any. It works. Nobody retains faith in fact or logic, only citations of case law, what they teach. It is more than what JL calls it, a corner turning. It is an enormous expansion of what any other judges have allowed but is completely faithful with the law itself. Major accomplishment, I think.

Interesting that, as I now notice, SFChron (7/9/76) still calls it United Press. I had not heard that Walker story. I had always suspected it as a reality that he, not uncommonly among the military, is wired the other way. (There is a novel on assassinations in which this figures. Guns of November, I think.) Interesting also that the story does not include even a pro forma denial.

Before I quit for supper, something I'd like to tell you my experiences with if you do not have it. 8-track tape.

We had an old but superb hi-fi, Scott and Bogen, loused up by a local gyp artist. The consumer affairs agency lost the solid fraud case I gave them, my records. So when another repair was needed I decided to replace it with an inexpensive & Smart stereo with 8-track and record player so Lil could use her records, those I'd been accumulating for years of what she likes, opera and vocals. One of our young friends brought her four of these cassettes. We had a heavy lightening storm again this afternoon. It hurt FM reception at a time when there is none of the music I like except from a Baltimore station from which reception was terrible. I put the Ercica on. Even on an inexpensive outfit the difference is enormous. And one lasts an hour.

Unless there is something new I have adequate coverage on the Fiorini-Ruby/Castro fabrication. Lane is getting LA attention. Something from the Vanguard in today's mail. With your clips in the to-read file. Thanks. Surprising how many Fiorini clips I was sent. DC coverage virtually none then late.

Taken by head on Candy Jones story, only one enclosed read. Very glad to have it. I know Nebel. His a nut of the far-right but has been hung up on such matters for years. No possibility her use as internal courier but in experiments not impossible. The truth is quite a story, ideally suited to movies. Appreciate anything you see. I have suppressed Inspector General's Report, which Church had and suppressed. And a theory grown into belief on the defenestration of the local scientist. Thanks and best,