

10/27/71

Dear Ed,

Today's mail is heavy, and except for a rather perceptive letter from Ray and your excessively kind one of the 23rd, they range from stupid to arrogant to offensive, and they reflect political ineptitudes, wrong judgements, crazy plans and other such that are quite upsetting. So, although there is always a hazard with haste, I'm catching up on the mail (I have a visitor coming tomorrow) and have gotten a couple of hours of light outside work in, and plan another before supper. To live in the country and rarely get fresh air!

As I think you exaggerate in my favor, I think you also do against RFK. This is not to say your fact or opinion is wrong, for neither is. It is to say your judgement is harsh and detached from political realities. You are judging him from your position. Try putting yourself in his. They are not really alike.

I know much more about the sexual foibles of these people than I ever say. I spent three nights as the house guest of the mistress of one and we are good friends. It is one who would not permit himself to be blackmailed, a different cat, alas.

I don't think I say it is because he was subject to blackmail that Bobby was quiet. If I did, it is not what I have thought and said from the first. I merely pose it as one possibility. Without it his course would have been the same, given his situation and background. As I put in in PM, they could buy brains but not common sense. Frank Bankiewicz will not be happy with the example I there use. I have a short chapter titled Hades-Not Camelot.

If I think your estimate of me exaggerated, and I really do, that is not to say that I appreciate your kindness in saying it any less, or in thinking it. Today in particular is welcome. When we are together again and have a chance to chat, and you have a faint glimmer of all the things adversely in focus at this moment, you will understand this much better. Many thanks.

ALLIED STORES CORPORATION
401 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

10/23/71

Dear Harold,

As per page 239
of Frame-up I assume
that you attribute the
silence of R.F.K. to blackmail.
This interpretation is possible
(if not provable) for the
"variety underground" has
long alleged that both R.F.K.
and R.F.K. had affairs
with famous and obscure
women. The Agency via
its show-biz/magic
contacts was in a position
to know this and to
act accordingly.

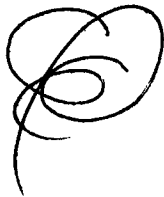
This interpretation
perforce damns R.F.K.
for what kind of man
acquiesces while his
brother is shot - not
the first victim of
thousands to come - his
country usurped - and
he keeps silent to
protect a family! Robert

Real the rich fascination
of his class for power
and in the end power
destroyed him.

You are too generous
to R.F.K.

Measure his courage
or Ted's against a man
their advantages for
transcend - yourself!

You're heroic.

Sincerely,


P.S.

Guy Talbot touched upon
the Monroe/R.F.K. relationship
in an Esquire article later
reprinted in The Famous
and The Obscure.