

Dear Scott,

1/24/97

Not only, as you say, do I not have the time, I am using this replacement machine with difficulty. My Hermes is in the shop. Wish I could get another Hermes portable like that one!

What was in the papers about Ray's health is what his brother Jerry tells me.

I have read Bill Pepper's book and do not believe what he says. On the rifle testing, as you may or may not know, I made the case that that rifle was not used in the crime.

I do not know how dependable any testing by shooting would not be after all the shots fired in it after the assassination.

All that firing, by the FBI and more by the House assassins, was certain to alter the markings left in firing bullets.

The fingerprints show only that Ray handled the rifle, which he said anyway. They do not show he held it where it had to be held to fire it.

I had no earlier knowledge of the state of Ray's health.
Excuse the brevity.

Best to you all,

Harold

1/18/97

Dear Harold,

Happy New Year. How are you both doing? Enclosed find clippings for your files pertaining to James Earl Ray and the current situation with his health.

In your last letter to me you said that you may have to get dialysis. I was wondering how you were doing with that and if you were receiving dialysis. I do hope that you are feeling alright.

Can you comment on the situation regarding Ray's health? According to some of these news clippings Pepper has stated that Ray has a hearing coming up this February where the alleged murder rifle may be allowed to be tested. What are the chances of the weapon actually being tested? Is this a remote possibility? If the weapon is tested and shows no evidence of Ray's fingerprints and Ray is still alive by the time this could conceivably happen, would this be the new evidence that could possibly get Ray a trial? If Ray dies before this happens the clippings state that the Record pertaining to the assassination would then be closed forever. Can you give me your views regarding this entire scenario. Also Have you heard from Ray at all and if so did you know about his declining health before it was reported in the papers?

I don't mean to take up your time with these questions. I hope you are both doing as well as possible.

Warmest regards,

Scott Wilson