

Dear Dave,

2/4/79

Having just emerged from a mad affidavit crunch - my last instalment was by hand on a steno's notebook and executed while speaking at Monmouth -and in the few minutes before another, when I have to go to the bus station and get JL's revision of one and get in back in time for him to file tomorrow, I've been checking for tomorrow. I explain.

I've decided to use the honoraria, when I receive them, which should begin soon, to pay for help with getting the files in shape and other such purposes. So, I started a new search for a student and this time, when Hood and Jerry failed to think of one a more mature woman who is using my files did. The other woman, who is to come tomorrow, seems anxious for the work, has the time, is a little older than the average college woman, and is well recommended by ~~in~~ (shamofaced) Jerry, who knows her.

So, with ~~lil~~ busy making multitudinous copies for some tough appeals, etc. that you will be getting, when I got my part done I decided to check my supply of file folders. It is low, very low.

Some time ago I had a very nice and I think quite thoughtful call from Burdette. (If there is no final e in his spelling, this is the spelling of the distaff side of ~~lil's~~ family.) He then offered me supplies via purchase orders I could use where most advantage locally. I've done much shopping and the best price is at Rogers Office Supply, from which I've been buying. (Except for the last 10,000, the largest sale the local Mont. Ward store ever had when they had a real deal, expecting to sell and occasional box as a .loss leader! I bought them when I had most of the last 10,000 I'd gotten from Rogers. Does this give you a notion of how many files there are? Well, I'm down to the last carton or 500.

We have never bought file folders from Quill, whose price by mail from Chicago has been very good on some things. They currently have a sale where the folders will be about 5¢ each. However, even if there is a saving I think it would be best to get them locally. Discount what I saw in yesterday's mail. The reason is that they would be dribbled in because of UPS limitations on the number of packages to a person at one shot. The local store will take them down the cellar and stack them atop the file cabinets at no extra charge.

I have in mind as the beginning for this student, named Ray, first consolidating the two FBIHQ general releases of 12/77 and 1/78. This is to get them in sequential order. As this is done I have in mind protecting each that Ray has to handle by having her put it in a file folder and adding full identification. (This is the use that ate so many up.) When that is done - take a deep breath - I have 13 cartons of FBIHQ and DFO "bulkys" to unpack and get filed. DFO's total 25,000 pp in 8 cartons. FBIHQ is of 5 cartons.

This will take many file folders.

When that is done I have a file cabinet full of solid King paper, OPR, which came to me that way and I've not been able to do anything about. Again, many file folders and much work. (So I need more speeches than the coming one at LeMoyne, Syracuse, on the 23th.)

Burdette also offered me paper but I'd just bought 15,000 of xerox and have plenty for rough work, which I sometimes use roughly for other than drafts, as you may know. So I did not accept his offer and still do not need any paper. (I would appreciate replacement of the tapes and those I hope to be able to get around to sending soon.)

One of the ways by which I get a better price from this local dealer is cash and no book work. If he is unwilling to extend the time for the coming of the purchase order I'll see if he'll accept and hold a check from me until he gets it. I think he will. You ~~and~~ or the univ. can let me know and I'll talk to him. If his supply is low and he has to get more maybe I can get a better deal if he can place a larger order. As I told Burdette, I believe that shipping costs are no so great that reshipping from the univ's supply will probably cost more but it makes no difference to me. And for this purpose they should be full cut, to provide maximum room for legible hand identification. I also think medium heavy because some of the Volumes are pretty fat and heavy.

I'm afraid this is very disorganized and it is rushed and off the top and probably has more than the usual ~~ix~~ number of typos but we have a large collating job ahead, as you will also see. And once the bus comes, well, another rush and we had guests scheduled before all of this. Fortunately, both are notaries, so I won't have to rush off to find one on a Sunday. After Thursday, when her stamp is due, I'll have an in-house one. Lil's certification or whatever it is called was of Fri at past. Don't know why I didn't think of that earlier.

In the copying while she has the machine going Lil is now making for you a copy of the Post-Dispatch series on the Patterson records, which I loaned them. I've already had a set made for you and as soon as I can get the originals back from Jim will send. I think that the stories amplify the meaning of the (incomplete and expurgated) records themselves. I think that in time these and whatever else there may be - I've appealed - might make a fine study for one of your students. It is comprehensible, fairly complete and can be amplified at your library. It makes an excellent single case study of a political informer and the purposes for which he was used and weaseled around by the FBI. He happens to be a lucid one, fairly expressive, and I wish I could be there this summer when he has agreed to take his tapes and videotapes up to you. I'd like to participate in an oral history because there is much not in the records. Where in the brief time it had the P-D could not get independent confirmation it omitted. Which is proper and reasonable.

I have more time because we remembered another copying job. Jim mislaid the 49-page memo I did on the John Ray case of the House and was submitted to the committee. So Lil is copying that. I think I sent it to you. If not I suggest that you try to work out a reciprocal copying arrangement with Hood, which can do at a fifth my cost and can print on both sides and save you space. Jerry also has heads so maybe that can work out. He has this or will want it. Or I can lend you a set because another crunch is ahead and this is Lil's tax season.

They are to wind up this month. I hear their "ay stuff has been printed. If this is included, as it should be but I think they dare not do, it will be cheaper in the printed version. It is not King, it is Ray, and the difference is great. I also hear that the report text will include no illustrations but that some will be in the appended volumes. ...Bronson's lawyer is having the computer enhancement study made privately and for much less than Blakey said it would cost the House. ...They will neither confirm nor deny that they have the "Babushka Lady" film.

From your amusement in January I know you'll recall the story of my telling Jim and later Shea that I am not a Bar Kochba but rather stem from the Maccabee line. Last night I was tempted to send Shea a personal note reminding him that the same invisible seed includes a bit of Samson. Not that I have such stones but I do not fear the federal Goliath. I was that upset over what you will see. But a funny thing happened and it took the time I'd have had. One of Lil's clients is a salesman who comes from and is well acquainted with the general Harlan area. We were swapping stories, both enjoying it, and then just before he left, he started telling me stories of his closest boyhood friend without getting to his name or his connection with the assassination. Suddenly it dawned on me that he was talking about and I correctly guessed Hugh Aynesworth. But their last contact was before the assassination. Their mothers are still neighbors.

Best,



The Abraham Lincoln Association, in cooperation with the Illinois State Historical Society,

announces a program for

Lincoln's Birthday — 1979
Monday, February 12
Springfield, Illinois

1:30 Sixth Annual Abraham Lincoln Symposium (free—public invited), Hall of Representatives in the Old State Capitol

Presiding: Rodney O. Davis, *Knox College*

Welcome

Floyd S. Barringer

President, Abraham Lincoln Association

“Psychohistorical Reflections on Lincoln and His Father”

Charles B. Strozier

The relationship between Abraham Lincoln and his father and the impact of that relationship on Lincoln's views about himself and others have been the subject of speculation by Lincoln scholars for generations. Professor Strozier will explore these influences and assess their effect on the development of Lincoln's thought as a public figure. Strozier will examine not only what Lincoln had to say about his father, but the assessment of contemporaries and that of later scholars. Strozier's conclusions may surprise some and confirm the suspicions of others as he explores the psychohistorical dimension of the Lincoln theme.

“Lincoln: Democracy's Touchstone”

David R. Wrone

Every national civilization has individuals to whom its citizens look to define what that civilization is and provide models for life and work. After the trauma of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln to a large degree replaced the earlier models: George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson. In the post-Civil War era many Americans—both native-born and immigrant—looked to Lincoln as the model of what American life was or should be. Leaders such as Jane Addams, Eugene Debs, and Robert La Follette all consciously modeled their lives—and attempted to influence others to do the same—according to their understanding of Lincoln.

Comments by Rodney O. Davis

Audience Interrogatories

6:30 Abraham Lincoln Association Reception (cash bar), Forum XXX

7:30 Abraham Lincoln Association Dinner (\$18 per person), Forum XXX

Presiding: President Floyd S. Barringer

Address

Judge William H. Webster

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

To the Members of the

Abraham Lincoln Association:

We are pleased to announce the speakers for the Symposium this year: Professor Charles Strozier of Sangamon State University with “A Psychohistorical Study of Lincoln and His Father” and Professor David Wrone of the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point with “Lincoln: Democracy's Touchstone.”

The Dinner speaker will be Judge William Webster, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

We hope you will attend both the Symposium and Dinner.

From 1940 to 1952 the Association published *The Abraham Lincoln Association Quarterly*. During those years the *Quarterly* was recognized as a major medium for Lincoln scholarship.

Although the Association no longer enjoys the services of a full-time staff of Lincoln scholars and although membership is but 22% of what it was in 1952, we feel the Association again needs its own publi-

cation medium. The quality of many of our annual addresses is such that we owe it to our membership, to our speakers, and to the world of Lincoln scholars to ensure that these addresses are published and disseminated on a much greater scale.

We therefore propose publication of *The Abraham Lincoln Association Annual*.

Funds for this publication would be derived from membership dues. Thus it is imperative that we expand and revitalize our membership roll. We urge you to encourage your friends to join the Association so we may enter their names on the mailing list for *The Abraham Lincoln Association Annual*!

Sincerely,

The Sixth Annual Abraham Lincoln Symposium
and
The Annual Abraham Lincoln Association Dinner
Monday, February 12, 1979 — Springfield, Illinois

Speakers

At the Dinner:

WILLIAM HEDGCOCK WEBSTER has served since February 23, 1978, as the third Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Judge Webster, as he prefers to be called, resigned on that date as judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit (St. Louis) to assume his duties as FBI Director. According to Judge Harlington Wood, Jr., of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit (Chicago), "There isn't a better man anywhere for the vital job he now holds." Born in St. Louis in 1924, Judge Webster received his B.A. degree from Amherst College and his J.D. from Washington University. He served in the U.S. Navy (Lieutenant j.g.) 1943-46 and 1951-52. He was admitted to the Missouri Bar in 1949 and engaged in the private practice of law in St. Louis before his appointment in 1960 as U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri. He returned to private practice in 1961 until his appointment in 1970 as judge of the U.S. District Court for that district. He was elevated to the Appellate Court in 1973. Judge Webster is an honorary (life) president of the Big Brother Organization and served for many years as a director and counsel of the Visiting Nurses Association. He has served as chairman or member of numerous legal and judicial committees. His contributions both to his profession and to his fellow citizens have brought him numerous tributes and several honorary degrees. "As time goes along," Judge Wood has stated, "the people of this country will come to realize how fortunate we all are to have [William Webster] in high government office."



At the Symposium:

CHARLES B. STROZIER—associate professor of history at Sangamon State University since 1972 and visiting assistant professor of psychiatry at Rush Medical College, Chicago—received his B.A. from Harvard University and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. He is the founding and current editor of the *Psychohistory Review*. He directed a unique program funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and SSU to provide modern interpretations of various historic Lincoln sites in the greater Springfield area. He has published articles and book reviews in the *Psychohistory Review*, *East European Quarterly*, *Journal of Modern History*, and others. Strozier has delivered papers and commented at numerous scholarly meetings in the fields of history, psychohistory, medicine, and political science. He is currently completing a book-length psychological study of Abraham Lincoln.



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DAVID R. WRONE—professor of history at the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point—received his B.S., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign. Professor Wrone joined the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point history department in 1964. He has published numerous articles in scholarly journals, including "Illinois Pulls Out of the Mud" in the *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society* (1965). He is the author of two books, *The Assassination of John Fitzgerald Kennedy: An Annotated Bibliography* (1973) and *Freedom of Information Act and Political Assassinations, Vol. 1* (1978), and co-author—with Russell S. Nelson, Jr.—of *Who's the Savage: A Documentary History of the Native North Americans* (1973). He is currently at work on two studies: a legal documentary on the Freedom of Information Act (continuing) and a history of the objective idealist movement.



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RODNEY O. DAVIS—professor of history at Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois—received his B.S. and M.A. from the University of Kansas and his Ph.D. from the University of Iowa. He has been on the history faculty at Knox College since 1963 and has been a visiting professor at the University of Iowa, University of Missouri, and Kansas State University. He is also Director of the American Studies Program and the Midwest Studies Center, both at Knox College. He has published articles and book reviews in the *Annals of Iowa*, *Journal of the West*, and *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, as well as numerous other scholarly journals. He is currently studying political party formation in Illinois during the Jacksonian era and the post-Connecticut career of abolitionist-educator Prudence Crandall in Illinois and Kansas.



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(detach along dotted line)

Reservation Form
Abraham Lincoln Association Dinner

Enclosed please find my remittance of \$ _____ for _____ Reservation(s) at \$18; _____ Table(s) of 8 at \$144. Reservations and remittance (payable to Abraham Lincoln Association) must be received no later than February 4, 1979. Tickets will be mailed by February 5.

Name: _____

Please seat me with:

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Mail to: Richard McCord
Illinois National Bank
One North Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, IL 62701

Be sure this address ↑ shows through window of enclosed envelope