

Dear Paul,

Sorry not to have responded to your 6/25 sooner. Between a little medical worry that has not gone away and remains without cause for disappearance and trying to keep up with all work there has been little time.

What I was able to do in the short time in Dallas in Jim's opinion met the immediate need. Without his urging me to see it this way and to do the ABC show I'd not have gone to New York to do it. I've had only a few letters and calls on it.

There was a short period after Ray's escape, as I can now recall those busy days, during which I feared he would be killed. Especially when I heard the FBI was in on it. I never expected the locals to kill him. Unless he was armed and shot at them, which I considered unlikely. When I heard others had gone over with him I was satisfied he had not planned the break. Given a chance he'll make the wrong decision. Every time. Years ago after the first report of his attempt to break out of Brushy I warned him that I know those mountains from youth and that unless he had someone waiting to pick him up immediately the dogs would get him. This is what happened. So while I suppose there was always the possibility he could be killed in the capture as I now recall it from the next day, a Saturday, I become less and less concerned about him being shot.

Little else new. The records keep pouring in, with a week off for some negotiating. I think we've worked out what means more compliance for us and much less work for the FBI than the alternative. It is to be drafted and signed this coming week. I do expect improved compliance on what remains.

Our best,

HW 7/9/77

Paul Wurtzel

1688 Sunset Plaza Drive, Los Angeles, California 90069

June 25, 1977

Dear Harold;

I am sorry that you weren't able to get here while you were fairly close. We were all looking forward to being with you and have you stay with us. I caught the show on AM America it is too bad they didn't give you more time. I hope that you got all done in Dallas that you want down for.

Ray's escape was something. I never thought they would find him alive or at all. Do you know anything about the committee's new chief counsel. I hope it might change but from what you pointed out before it is all a political thing and I don't imagine it will change much.

I am enclosing a magazine I found on a news-stand. I don't know if you have it or who puts it out. If you have time let me know if it is legitimate in your opinion.

Give my best to Lil and Jim and do hope you will be able to get out here.

Best,

