

Baird

Dear Mr. Beaver,

12/28/77

I'm sorry it has taken me so long to dig out the Baird tape transcript. I have taken it from my files and my wife will now make the enclosed copy for you.

With it there will be a few FBI technical and other comments. These also are among the reasons I prefer that it not be known that I have the actual transcript. I believe the House committee was totally irresponsible in this entire matter and I do not want to warn them against themselves.

I have other Baird records if you need them. Unless there is an urgency I'd rather not have to take the time to get them out and for my wife to copy them. However, if you are ever in this area or if as I believe I suggested you can interest the police union, you are perfectly welcome to all.

I hope you will not misunderstand this. I am nearing 65, have some serious health problems, have no help, no regular income and no financial resources. I have undertaken a large and unpaid work and in addition I have had a terrible load dumped on me in the case through which I obtained the enclosed. The Department has told the judge that I know more about the subject and the FBI's files on it than anyone in the FBI and they require my help. So I'm their consultant in the case I've filed against them. Parrot enough?

My progress in going over my own notes has been quite slow so I want to conserve all possible time for that disagreeable chore.

I have some newspaper clippings relating to Snyder and Baird. Scripps-Howard ran a number of stories, as I recall.

There was a civil rights complaint filed against Baird when he was a policeman. The date was 1963. Perhaps this will help you. It is probably something that figured in the letter a copy of which you should have received before this.

There is no charge for our time. I guess our copying and mail costs will be covered by \$10.00. I wish I could help your abused clients more. I feel sorry for them and their families, especially their kids. Fortunately the papers in this area paid no attention to Snyder's irresponsible slanders, so we had nothing to face, no lies to answer. Neither Snyder nor Speaker O'Neill responded to my challenges and other reactions.

As there is anything worth keeping in file for the future I'd appreciate copies.

There have been contradictory stories on whether or not the assassins committee is going to issue a report. For a period all the indications were that because they have no immediate need of money they will not. However, the last two reports that reached me indicate that some kind of report will be made, perhaps only because it would look so bad if there were none. Earlier accounts had it that this year they'd emphasize the King assassination. I have no pipeline to the committee. My guess is that there will be a nothing report on what will be called a King investigation, with little said about JFK. They'll again have need to stretch for a sensation. If there is one it will be a cheap one. Your clients can be goats again. I believe James Earl Ray also will be.

My copy is a poor one and my wife will not be able to better than you will get. She always experiments with poor originals to make the best possible copy.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg