

4/29/74

The Press Office  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs,

Because I am writing on the subject, I very much want what the President, in his truly remarkable speech, has just said he is making entirely public, the transcripts that have been demanded by his adversaries.

For my purposes I do not need the fancy bindings visible on TV. They represent an extra cost you need not run for me.

I hope there is no problem with this because I want to do exactly what the President says he wants done, read every word. It is only in this way that the writer can be honest with his reader and with history.

However, if you cannot supply me with a full set of these transcripts, which I would very much prefer, I would much appreciate those sections the President himself emphasized.

These are those dealing with the period immediately after the break-in; those involving John Dean; those of the period of the unprecedented threat to blackmail him and of his refusal to go along; those of his conversations with Kleindienst and Peterson; and particularly those demanding that there be full speed ahead on getting to the bottom of it and in getting the word out.

I would also like a copy of the full text of this remarkable speech. I do not want to depend on the faithfulness of any newspaper in printing it because they sometimes omit parts.

If there are any White House statements of the past that are relevant, whether made for the public or for the courts or other official use, if you have copies to spare, I would appreciate them, too.

Deciding to make all this publicly available was a wise if painful decision.

History does not, to my recollection, record anything like this exceptional effort. From the President down, everyone should appreciate it.

It is also my belief that the people will understand that in moments of stress and passion men do sometimes express themselves in earthy fashion. It is in the nature of man. We all do it and it should be understood.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg