

28 January 1975

Dear Harold:

In returning the attached I'm not competent to comment on any aspect except one which you've probably considered fully anyway. That would be the possible mistake of relying on publicity at any stage. The odds are against you, as you no doubt know, if the situation develops to the point where big wheel editors have to choose between you and a publicly accepted figure like Williams. They'll choose him, regardless of facts. They identify with him as part of the establishment ~~figure~~ (just like themselves, they hope) and besides won't want to print material which will make their previous unquestioning acceptance of him look foolish.

Strikes me that he instinctively knows this, if not from long experience, and to a certain extent can rely on it. He might be far more vulnerable to ~~challenges~~ challenges to his professional standing if these can be brought to his knowledge along with the prospect that they are going to be pressed purely on their merits because their merits are undeniable, and not in the midst of a public hullabaloo. Not that I have the impression that any hullabaloo is contemplated, but it's just that if I were involved I would want to feel sure that the whole thing is not going to get beyond the stage where a good legal mind like Lesar's can control it.

Good luck,

jdw