

4/19/72

Dear Js, Of all the bonuses we didn't need, six extra fruit trees, duplicating an order already planted, arrived today. The only places they could go is the newly-liberated land where the roots of the honeysuckle remain and the dead briars still bite. Even small holes here require a maddock and hauling topsoil in, so, I'm pooped. I need the exercise, tho. But it took the afternoon, and anything taking that big a hunk of time puts me behind. And I'm getting loaded up from another and very promising quarter, where I should change the phrase to third. Meanwhile, I've given the second a problem, as by now you are aware, and I could delay it no longer. I felt the time for challenge had come, that I'd never have a less unfavorable dueling ground. This is to explain the perhaps seemingly inexplicable. The legal opinion is approval. Such operations, however, should have time for thought, revision and perhaps cooling. I don't have that luxury. So I can only hope it was the right time to move and that I moved in the right way... Bud will see James over the weekend. He didn't know J was in the hole until I told him. If I have spent much time building confidence in Bud, a certain amount appears to be vested in me. By all three... Today was the last day for filing the memos the judges asked for Friday. Fortunately, the lawyers could find what I'd supplied earlier, used it, they say effectively, and if they took the line I suggested and they agreed to Friday there is a better record for the current decision and for the Supreme Court, where it will go, one way or the other. The government was and said it was unhappy that we had included certain letters, which you can guess, in our briefs. But that grew from the fact that Richard the Lyin Hearted required reminding, so the letter to which he responded served as belated response to more than one request. My fault? The protest is late and with any kind of honest judges, would better not have been made. DJ is in Uptightsville, but the crooked press will not see it, so they won't catch it. Besides, the letters were in point-in response to the DJ argument, not irrelevant. Because of the curse on me and on the subject, the thing may well go unnoted and it could not be more relevant to confirmation. I have asked that a few copies be sent in my name. No letter, no press release, merely a plain envelope with my return address and the copy of the paper filed in court. It had to be printed, so there are copies. If there are no spares, I'll lend you one, even though I gave not sent you the earlier pleadings... If you can remember the piece I had to use my Old VOM recorder because I'd forgotten the pickup for the TC40 and the incident I reported to you, what it meant I didn't have on tape when I'd expected to, well, I have a new correspondent who had a car licensed there. Small world, eh?... If you know a dependable and good reporter in or near your origin, Jim, it would be very good to know. Esp. Kansas City but also St. Louis. ... I'll think you might be interested in the Kissinger gals. Best, HW