

2/16/72 Lil and I have decided that the hell with work we are going to look at one of the China specials on TV tonight, the one with the Yugo footage. She is soaking, hoping it can relax her a bit. I was a settin' and athinkin after late supper and it occurred to me that I may not have made my purposes clear to you in sending that long letter to Ray. I've had it with him and the nuts he trusts like Jerry and Stoner, and whoever, them or others, who are putting him up to these zany things. It is at best a bad situation, with luck no more than a dangerous one, and what the hell, with all there is that can't be done, why worry about one who can't do right, can't keep his word (he did promise me that he would not again make a break until his judicial remedies were past and failed), obviously lack any appreciation and has helped only when he could be tricked, as I did do several times (he was unresentful then). So, I figured I'd lay it on the line and let him get mad, I couldn't care less if he wants no more to do with me. I'd be better off. But I also thought that by laying it out without the brutality his incredible record warrants, but strongly enough so that it might penetrate the ego or whatever else dominates him, he just might get into line. And help a bit. I am absolutely satisfied I know everything but the name on the finger on the trigger, who was his driver, and who paid whoever paid them, where I have both leads and suspicions. I didn't lay it on at all think when I described the evi-

dence I have in hand. The question in my mind is can anything be done with the guy. So, I figured it was time to give it to Stoner and Jerry, too. I do think that the crazy Esqui: thing, where Jerry lays it out that James will sing, preferably for money, may have triggered something that had been in his mind. Maybe no connection. We have discussed those hills and you know what even an idiot would know he has to expect. So, nailed down as I am, I thought I'd see if the warden is willing to help I've lost just a bit of time if he does not. He also has a stake in it we have never mentioned: Ray's getting out ^{OR} getting killed would hurt him much. It is not necessary to respond. I didn't take time to re-read the letter. If you think I did it badly, that I would like to know. I've seen no news story, but the Star ^{used} ~~used~~ what I guess is AP copy last night saying that one he got through that roof his troubled didn't begin to begin until he cleared the first of the remaining hurdles, and the second was a drop of a mere 20 feet. Tarzan Ray!. But I wanted you to know that nothing is called for, unless you see some interesting copy Now for China! Best, HW

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