

Dear both: We hope that Je's major discomforts are past and that she is rapidly becoming what she was, again. Because of this I've cut down on what I've sent. However, I'm including today's letter to Jerry Ray. I didn't want to take time for it because I want to leave as much of the new book as possible ready for retyping. I'll be done with the first two parts today but probably won't be able to do much on the 3rd, which is started. The second death of a ~~ex~~ judge at a crucial time is an upsetting of the odds I turned Les Payne onto this and his story appeared yesterday. The wire services picked it up, he told me last night It got some attention in New York because I had an afternoon call on it when I was not home. I'll be spending Monday night with Les and his family on Long Island. Each time I'm with him I carry him a little farther forward with the work I've done and what I've come to believe. He understands this and the reasons for not overloading him at one time and that it is working well. Newsday does like to have all these stories it can syndicate and the wires give it prestige by picking up. There is a fortunate accident in his past: he was part of the team that won the 1974 gold Pulitzer for their work on heroin. This can tie into Foreman as I think I told you years ago when my investigations took me that way. I do have a case of Foreman putting people away for the mob and one case in which all MOs parallel the Ray case. I've past that in the writing. The optimist in me tells me that the case I've put together with the earlier death of a judge, Battle, could make a movie. (I call the second of two chapters on it "Died in Battle." Hope you don't mind the pun.) Pretty Byzantine stuff...As of yesterday Les was still convinced, from what he knows and what Clarence Kelly and people in the DJ tell him that my pressures are responsible for their need to have or pretend to have a new investigation. The delays in the appearance of the report signal their problems, I think...Little new here except that Lil's pressures on taxes are over. My new supports are another misfit. Yesterday was my first off the anti-coagulant because the local doctors do not respond so I've seen neither. I expect to see the same NY doctor when I'm there. I'll be sending a 3cl today or Monday. Best,

HW 4/17/76

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