



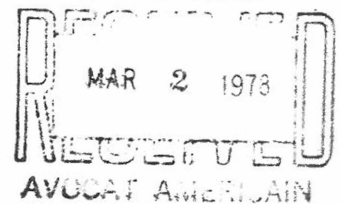
United States Department of Justice

OFFICE FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN THE
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

February 13, 1978

RONALD P. SOKOL
LAW OFFICES



Mr. Ronald P. Sokol
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Conseil Juridique
13540 Puyricard
Aiz-en-Provence FRANCE

Dear Ron:

Your Supreme Court papers arrived just as I was leaving for Boston, but I did have time to sign them and get them to the Court. If any hitch develops, please let me know and I will check on them for you.

To bring you up to date on my case, I regret to state that thus far I have regained no useful eyesight. In fact, I have not had any sight since May 6 of last year. The last time I recall talking to you I was in the hospital. I was finally discharged on July 5th, with the hope and expectation that vision would gradually be regained in the right eye following the fourth operation. There has been some measure of medical progress in the right eye, but unfortunately no sight. I was examined in Boston again on February 1. The judgement there is that there is another operation to be performed, but it would be better to wait about three more months to give the eye still more time to regain a stronger position through natural processes. Thus, I'm carrying on in the shape I have been in for at least another three months. Then I will go back to Boston, and we shall see what develops at that time. The most encouraging thing is that the case is not yet closed. Hope still exists, though it has diminished.

In the meanwhile, I have been going about my work here more or less as usual, but with some peculiar features. I have a lot of help from the staff. Of course, I must receive everything orally, either on tapes or through live readings. This cuts down on the amount of material I can cover and assimilate, but so far I have been able to keep up reasonably with essential matters. The most awesome and peculiar experiences have been involved in testifying before Congressional committees and in

Mr. Ronald P. Sokol
February 13, 1978
Page 2.

making speeches. It is a novel experience to be talking before an audience which one cannot see. Also, the absence of any notes is unusual. These circumstances force the memory into service as never before. Interestingly, I find myself more and more at ease with this process. The press has become interested in my case, and there have been several articles. I'm enclosing one from the L. A. Times.

I have been convinced since last summer that I eventually will have to write up all of these experiences. In fact, during Christmas I began dictating a very rough draft of a manuscript that may eventually turn into a book. The sightless world is, indeed, another world, and I do not believe that it has been adequately treated in literature. However, in my projected manuscript, I am dealing with far more than just this problem.

It was grand of you to call last summer, and I hope that if you get to this Country this coming summer, you will make a point to stop by in Washington. You are welcome at any time to spend the night with us. We also appreciate greatly your invitation for a stay in France. There is nothing I would enjoy more doing. I'm still hoping that the day will come when we can do this and that I will be able to see the place when we get there.

Keep me posted on your activities.

With very best wishes,

Sincerely,



Daniel J. Meador
Assistant Attorney General