

Dear Dal,

4/8/95

Fortunately Bill Weichter is here so as soon as your letter, which again took only five days, was here he went to the basement and got the Bag file for me. What was of any use in it is enclosed. The xerox of the picture is not the one Lesar still has not gotten printed. It was in my office file and there is not enough time for me to get a negative and a print made. But it is not the one described. You may be able to see that for all that was done to it to make it appear to have held a gun it clearly had no such markings.

Your apprehension over your coming appearance reminds me of when I felt that way. It was before my first TV show. I tell you the story so you can profit from it and not only not be afraid but to recognize that you can turn it into an asset.

I'd been invited to do one of the early TV talk shows on the largest independent TV station in the country in the prime market, New York City. When I got there they told me they were running late. They asked if I'd like to see it from the sponsor's booth, which was high up. I had no sooner settled in and was not paying close attention to the guest when I saw that there were four people in that working-class audience who could not have been any more out of place. Then I listened to the guest. He was Mohammed Mehdi. He clearly was a professional Arab and he still is. When he was holding forth on his claim there is no such thing as <sup>only anti-Semitism,</sup> Anti-Semitism these four were on their feet shouting at him. One of more mentioned that they were lawyers. So I asked myself why they were there and I decided they were there to go after me. So, I asked myself, what can I say as soon as I can they can say nothing about. I remembered the Times certification I have in facsimile and put a scrap of paper at that page of Whitewash, as of then the <sup>only</sup> ~~the~~ book on the subject, to be able to find it rapidly. And that is what I did as soon as the show started.

Those four came after me all at once and with multi-part self-answering questions that all were angled and I was patient with them. I'd done a radio show in which I'd formed the opinion that when there are people in the audience who intend you no good to let them <sup>to</sup> mishave and by the time they have turned the audience against themselves to give them the works. After the first break for a commercial, then only one each quarter of an hour, I abruptly shouted at the first of those <sup>lawyer,</sup> something like, Now you hold ~~on~~ it a minute, you with the biggest mouth, I'll stay here all night and answer your dirty dishonest questions, if the station wants that but <sup>only</sup> one of you at a time and no multipart questions, OK, you with the biggest mouth, what are you so sour about?

That did <sup>set</sup> ~~it~~ them all back a bit and when he had a multipart question I hollered at him, stop there. I'll ~~answer~~ answer that and if you are foolish enough and ignorant enough to ask more, fine, I'll <sup>answer</sup> ~~do~~ that.

It set the audience in an uproar, those four were too silly to stop, and the cameras ran and ran. I went after them for an hour and a half and when they

finally recognized they were whipped it went on a little longer with friendly questions from the audience.

I forgot that the first thing I ~~as~~ said when I was calm and collected was to ask them how ~~as~~ lawyers they could justify the burning of any papers relating to the autopsy of the President. That one question made a big difference, to them, to the audience and to my relations with them.

When the show was aired that Saturday night my phone got me up 2:20 (after it started at midnight) and I never did get back to sleep because it never stopped ringing.

Whitewash sold out in New York Monday and I had to ship more immediately. In fact I am certain I have to print an added 5000 that week and I may have had to reprint twice.

So I suggest you have a xerox of that, the one with Burkley's "verified and approved" on it from PM; on page 24 of WWIV, that Eisenberg memo on what Warren said at his first meeting with the staff, use a highlighter on it so say you time, for your eye to go to what you want to use; and use the back cover of the book to spot other things you may want to use, like Dulles telling them how right and proper it is to be a perjurer.

Also from PM a little from that 1/22/64 executive session, how they could never persuade the people that there had been no conspiracy, that the FBI wanted the Commission to fold its tents and go home, the FBI having done its work for it; and Dulles recommend<sup>ing</sup> that they destroy that record.

If you use these things in your remarks and the nasties come after you you can say blandly here you are defending official miscreants but you have not a word to say about ...and then refer back to those records, this time with them in your hands and this time saying that while it was not possible for you to have copies for all them you do have a few extras and perhaps one of them can arrange to make copies for those others who want them. I think the one I used is best for that. You have the Katzenbach memo. The next nasty you can use that one. <sup>and</sup> on and on. Have something you can refer back to and then show, if only by holding it up to be seen. If there is an overhead projector, that would be ever better. But I'd still offer to make copies available.

And above all begin with extra politeness and patience if there is a claque of them and when they've behaved badly enough go after them with emotion. People can understand that kind of emotion and it is more than warranted.

With Warren of course, what he said can mean only a war with the USSR over a conspiracy it was part of or was all of, that was nonsense, but it reflects that the Commission determined not to find any conspiracy. as that 1/22 transcript also proves.

Believe me, sharp criticism from sycophants and the unthinking and the ignorant are much to be desired. I got to love it and it helped no end. The contrast also helps much.

I'd not noticed your speech impediment. My ears make those kinds of things up for me!

Lange is one of the people I had in mind when I asked you if some of your peace

people might get interested in Waketh. Come to think of it the question is raised in NEVER AGAIN! I have the profoundest respect for that man and his putting principle ahead of political gain. Do you think he'd like a copy of Selections from Whitewash? If so give me his address and I'll send it. Ditto for NEVER AGAIN! and Case Open. I imagine that if he were to mention them some of your book stores would have a few on hand for your people. It would not make any major difference in sales, but it would get a few copies there and people would know at least that the work exists. And a notion of the truth.

I think it is great that Donna is interested in a piece and I hope she could be satisfied with the mereest mention of the university and use all the other space in the story for substance. Don't forget xeroxes for her!

After the Harbour News has a mention is there a radio station you might get to make a mention? You could use one of those documents for that. And with a little attention TV might come to you. Then those documents would be really useful.

Sometimes Summers neither lies not exaggerates but until you have proof of that do not assume it. You have seen that he has almost nothing new in that major piece, that he cribbed some of it and that there is no support for what interests you. It is not in the official evidence. And a friend of mine in Florida has phoned his alleged source often without a single callback.

I hope you have enough for the conference. And using only some of the documents you and having a table from others to be seen may be effective. Do not get involved with too many of them in your presentation. Pick those you think will have most impact with your audience or those you can use most effectively.

On the bag, and this is testimony not documents, there were but as I recall two fingerprints on it and neither one was where he <sup>allegedly</sup> held it. And paper takes prints and holds them. The rifle was well oiled and the bag had no oil on it either. <sup>Ditto for the blanket</sup> As you'll see from the enclose, they all knew the truth and lied when they could do so little phoneying up.

It is norm to feel daunted the first time but believe me you can handle it well and turn all the nasties around because they are ignorant and unprofesional. If they had traditional professional attitudes they'd not try any stuff on you, would only listen and ask any questions about what you say, not based on what they believe. Something you may want to consider telling any particularly arrogant, ignorant, prejudiced one. And they are inevitably in the position to say <sup>of my</sup> the government is right because it ~~says~~ says it was right, with no other reason, and how would they feel if one of their students took that position? Or one of their peers? So do not intimidate yourself with worries you need not have. Instead when you've the time see if you can anticipate what any <sup>nasties</sup> nasties might try to pull and how best to knock them down. And if you can get someone to tape it so you can listen to the tape later you will learn from that. Everyone does. And should. But give no thought to any mistakes you may make. We all do! Love, *Heard*