

28 October 1969

Dear David,

I was delighted to get your letter of the 25th and learn that I could with good conscience put aside my worry about the Finck transcript. This is not a real reply to your letter but more of a bulletin, to tell you about a new development:

This afternoon while snowed under with work and laboring against a deadline I got a phonecall from one of the UN verbatim reporters who has been a good friend of mine since we met at the ping-pong club for staff members about seven or more years ago. Bernie of course has known about my work on the case since the very first day and I mentioned to him in passing, when we happened to meet in the corridors last week, that I was in process of reading some transcripts from the Shaw trial.

Lucky I did mention it, because Bernie's call today was to tell me that one of the temporary verbatim reporters (always hired at this time of year to augment the regular staff because of the extremely heavy workload of the General Assembly) turns out to be the chief court reporter at the Shaw trial, who apparently transcribed almost the whole of the trial! Bernie wanted to know if I would like to get together with him, and I need hardly say that my answer was YES.

It only remains to find a half-hour when all three of us are free at the same time. If my impression of him is at all promising, I will see if there is some way to get the Shaneyfelt and Zapruder transcripts, or even the entire trial record. So I suggest that you hold off for a while in making any contacts with the court in New Orleans, in case I can work out something with this guy. (I was so rushed that I did not even take his name.) I will try to get together with him at the very first moment that my paid work permits.

Must rush to other chores now. Best,

Hastily,