

23 April 1971

Mr Fred Newcomb
4640 Noble Ave
Sherman Oaks 91403

Dear Fred,

Thanks for your entertaining account of the Garrison-Sahl Road Show. Now I finally understand why they call it the boob-tube. Your letter arrived simultaneously with the package of radio broadcast outlines that you returned (and I have sent you another batch this morning, this time wrapped somewhat more sturdily) and a letter from Mary which turned me into stone for a while, because of the horrifying news of Arch Kimbrough's coronary. I put in a call to Mary and was relieved and happy to learn that he had rallied and now is given a chance.

I have discontinued my subscription to the J. Jeesten "Truth Letter" because it suddenly dawned on me that it was costing about \$2.00 a copy for his paranoic pronouncements--but some kind soul sent me one of the issues I had missed which contains the full text of a four-page letter from Garrison to Jeesten, the delivery of which had been mysteriously delayed for almost 60 days. Well, you can imagine what Jeesten made of that. For a while Jeesten had been making some ginger criticisms of Garrison, but in the wake of this flattering letter with its compliments to Jeesten's work, he has reverted to passionate hero-worship of Big Jim. I guess it takes one to love one (paranoic, that is).

The only news I have to offer is that my negotiations with the Texas Observer for publication of my article on Charles Givens are still going on, with tentative plans for publication sometime in or after June, accompanied by a 16-page "reply" by David Belin to my 7-page ms! He was given the opportunity of commenting, since the article suggests that he was implicated in perjury and collusion, and he erupted in abusive epithets ("assassination sensationalist..." whose work is "garbage" and compared me to Joe McCarthy, and the like), irrelevancies (including the wrapping of his villainy in the flag of opposition to the Vietnam war--so what else is new?), and so feeble a defense of his failure to challenge Givens' testimony that I almost feel sorry for him. What he says, in effect, is that what Givens stated directly to him, Belin, in April 1964 nullified everything he had said on 11/22/63 and subsequently to the FBI and the SS, even though the accounts he gave on 11/22/63 (in an affidavit as well as an FBI interview) and at later times before April 1964 were generally consistent with each other and had an important degree of independent corroboration from other witnesses. I will distribute the Tex.Obs. issue, if and when it appears, to you and all the other critics. Much as I would love to circulate all the correspondence and mss. now, it runs to about 30 pages and I just cannot abuse my xerox privileges that much.

My best to you and your roommate, keep in touch, please.

As ever,