

7 November 1966

Dear Harold,

I wish this could be a long letter but it will have to be a hurried one because I have several letters to answer tonight plus a constellation of other chores. I lost much of the weekend on peripheral matters like a press release on the Esquire issue to come out on the 15th (with pieces by Epstein and me). I do want to say, though, that all indications are that the autopsy photograph gambit has backfired and boomeranged and is doing exactly the opposite of what it was intended to do.

I think you are very wise to keep the contents of your new book to yourself; that way, there will be no slip-ups, and no complications. Needless to say, I wish you all good luck in getting a publisher, and quickly. At the risk of sounding "noble" I must still say that I am not at all dismayed at the thought that the effect may be to date my own ms. The only important issue is that the truth must come out—the imprimatur does not matter.

The main reason for this hasty note is to answer your question about Liebler—the statement that the purpose of his investigation was to prove the WR findings correct was in a news item heard on WINS-radio (NY) on the evening of October 22<sup>nd</sup>, at about 8:20 p.m. and every half-hour thereafter. There was a story in the NY Times of Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> (p 36) but it did not use this phrase or any phrase like it; however, the burden of the story as a whole makes it quite clear that this is precisely Liebler's purpose.

Your letter to Podhoretz was rich; I was quite amused, but I don't suppose he or Bickel will be. (By the way, I think Bickel does mention Whitewash in a footnote?) Oh, yes, almost closed without mentioned this —Barry Gray invited me to be on again, on the 9th, this time with two men I've never met before—Mark Lane and David Walsh—but am scarcely on cordial terms with, as well as Kupperman. Much as I may dislike Lane and/or Walsh, I do not intend to be drawn into any contention or personal exchanges with them—I am there to discuss the evidence and the facts, and no more. At least, I go with those intentions...and hope for the best. With some of our "friends" we don't need anything else, except perhaps divine intervention and strong self-control.

Best, Harold, as always,