

2 February 1967

Dear Harold,

Thanks very much for yours of January 25th, received yesterday. I may well be wrong about the Martha Dean program and I will be happy indeed to be wrong. It may be that the negative reactions which I got were in the minority, as you suggest, and that the net impact is favorable and exposes the vicious tactics of the opposition. Let me make it clear, in any case, that I am 100 percent with you in your position and was troubled only lest listeners were misled about what was really at issue.

The stationery is very handsome, your artist did a fine job.

Harold, I asked you about a man who was staying with a mutual friend of ours, as you may remember; you told me that you were cooperating with him and he was doing important work. Subsequently, I had a visit from this man, and I fully agree with you—I think he is doing most important work and I have no doubt that he is legitimate. In fact, through happy accident, I was able to supply an important piece in his mosaic.

However, other strangers have been turning up about whom I have the most serious doubt. This comes simultaneously with what seems to be a concerted campaign of vilification and ugly attempts at defamation. I think that every one of us should view with extreme caution any allegations from strangers of "breakthrough" information as I feel that part of the campaign will be the laying of some subtle traps.

A colleague of mine here in my office has just returned from London, where she she saw the BBC marathon; she confirms what Lane told me two days ago—it was the crudest kind of put-up job, along the same lines of the Martha Dean affair, and so blatant as to defeat itself, for the public was outraged by the complete violation of fair play and turned against BBC instead of for their position, which was a calculated vicious attack on Lane in particular but in essence on all criticism of the WR. There was even an attempt to demoralize him in advance, by a diabolic story that Trevor-Roper was about to go over and denounce the critics. It turned out to be completely untrue. On the contrary, it appears that Sparrow may be coming over to the side of the critics.

Harold, I would like to take advantage of your offer to help out on my book by supplying photos. I have obtained a good part of what I need from TMO's photo file on the case; but I still need the following (for which I will of course pay any costs by return mail):

- (1) GE 386, Dell edition of Whitewash, second page of the photo section
- (2) GE 397 face sheet (autopsy diagram), third " " " " "
- (3) Closeups of the faces of Oswald, Lovelady, and man in doorway in the Altgens photo, which I believe you used in the original edition of Whitewash (I don't have that with me at the moment).

I hate to add to your many burdens and of course I will understand if you can't manage. However, I am to have a conference early next week with Ockene to go over the photos to be included in the book; so if you can't supply these three items, please drop me a quick line, so I will know. Okay?

Warm regards and thanks,

As ever,