

Expressions of appreciation of my work sometimes interfere with it 5/17/92

I was to have appeared on Fox TV with regard to CIA Director Gates' statement to the Senate committee considering legislation to require that JFK assassination records be disclosed. I specified ~~that~~^{at} the interview had to be completed by 4:30 because we were going out for supper and I must eat early because I must retire early. The crew was delayed and when they knew they could not be here in time phoned and we called it off. However, they still wanted me to read what Gates had given the committee, which is being disclosed through the National Archives. Those records got here Friday afternoon and after reading them^I decided to prepare a comment for the media. However, as I read more and put more on paper I decided to ask Jim Lesar to give the statement I would prepare to the appropriate Senate and House committee. It grew longer than I'd planned.

I had just gotten well into it yesterday when the phone started ringing. The calls were mostly from people inquiring about the availability of my books, one was just to ask me a couple of questions and one, in addition to inquiring about the books told me of what that man had found in the Dallas police records.

What is interesting is that each and ever call include some form of praise or thanks or other expression of opinion about my work, approval, rather. In talking about this to Lil at supper, waiting to be served, we agree that there has been a slight decline in book orders yet an increase in such calls. We also agreed that the more time passes since the controversy over the Stone movie began the more such calls I get. Meaning with expressions of appreciation for what I've done. This is also true of the letters asking for information about the books and ordering them.

I do not know what to attribute this to. Or how these people who do not have my books know enough about my work and me to have such opinions. I presume that some of it can be from the bibliographies of the other books that have bibliographies.

But what these people say and have been saying is extremely flattering and at the same time seemingly quite sincere. Some of it is effusive.

Yesterday if kept intruding upon my concentration in preparing the statement. I finished it this morning.