

12/10/71

Dear Howard (cc Paul Hoch),

As you know, it has long been a futility for me to ask anything from the Archives. They have new ways of delaying, some of my unanswered requests now being more than a half year old and unfilled. So, I'd like you to ask for something for me.

One of the mysteries I was able to resolve in Dallas is why J.M.Chaney was never called as a witness. There may be more than the one reason, but the one is enough. Aside from whatever he learned when he returned to the TSED, as Studebaker testified, he was taped immediately after the assassination.

Today I received from Gordon McClendon's secretary a copy of the KLIF (he owns it) record, The Fateful Hours. I head it in Dallas. It has an interview with Chaney in which Chaney says the President was struck in the face by a bullet.

Checking at KLIF for the original tape yielded nothing. Had I the time to haunt the place, the results might have been better. But the then news director is now dead and the new one claims they have none of the tapes used in this record. McClendon reported that he, personally, also has none. I believe they are stashed away somewhere at the station for safekeeping, but that with the death of the man who did it, nobody knows where.

The Archives now has an enormous accumulation of tapes. It blundered into the dubbing operation some time back. There were then two overloaded library carts of boxes of such tapes, which had to total thousands of hours in all.

So, what I'd like you to do, without specifying what, is to ask for dubs of all tapes of all interviews with J.M.Chaney, then of the DPD, and any transcripts of these or FBI reports of interviews with, etc. Make it as inclusive as possible. Long ago I was told no FBI reports, but some could have surfaced.

I received the long-delayed color pix in my absence. They seem to be terribly yellow. When the weather clears (fog is terrible) and I'm caught up a bit I'll be looking into making negatives and getting prints. I have a friend who processes. This is, I think, negative film. Sure took a long time!

Best,