

8/10/67

Dear John,

Spoke to John, at his home last night when he didn't return my earlier calls. Again, he didn't get the messages. He is not too clear on what you have in mind for him to do at Hearst-Avon but will drop by with copies of the books. As soon as I got your letter I sent him an extra supply.

As you can see from the enclosed, I am broadening the basis of what I hope will become an attack. The photocopy to Brooks if CBS is a test one that is not clear. I have since made a good one, with their designed error and the true reality on the same page. It may do nothing but embarrass CBS, but if they can be embarrassed, it should. I will be doing more of this, perhaps one a week for a while. I'm doing the same with AP, where the interval will be greater.

I will probably be in NYC in the near future. If there is anything you'd like me to do, please let me know.

No word from Harv. If CBS has not put a bee on him and if copies of the new book are not available in SF, I think there could be an interesting show on the publishing monopoly, how the reviewers and papers close ranks behind the rare man who dares publish his own book when he is boycotted by the publishers, how most of the distributors follow along and will not handle, ditto with sales agencies. Aside from the content, the pressures are to try and guarantee financial failure to anyone who dares defy the boycott. I could weave in a lot of the history of WHITEWASH, which has never been told on the air or in print. It also might kindle a little flame.

I'm also prepared to go ahead on the same line as the others with NBC. I wrote Today six days ago. I've got a letter to Julian Goodman, Pres NBC, ready for next week if I get no answer before then. This is on New Orleans.

The Washington Post carries no mention of the New Orleans Andrews trial today, although it was quite legitimate news on TV, NBC and CBS, last night. It is typical of them. FYI and Harv's, Zelden has been on the verge of leaving Andrews' side since his first grand-jury appearance. That he delayed this long is all that surprises me. His back almost broke when Andrews filed his frivolous suit against Garrison. There is a legal maxim, "He who has himself for a client has a fool for a client". I think Andrews may intend this literally. He is much more shrewd than he is made to appear. I think he is bucking himself what in the Army is called a "Section 8", or an insanity discharge. His immediate problems are three: living, staying out of jail, and not getting disbarred. As long as he fails to tell the truth he is in danger on the first, for he always can talk. The second and third can be accomplished by seeming temporary insanity. Nothing else can make sense out of the wholesale volume of his open perjury. That might also protect him against action by Gene Davis, who he knowingly wrongly identified as Bertrand hence a pervert aside from involved with perverts and the assassination.

I've heard nothing on the progress at Parallax on the New Orleans book. I asked Billings of LIFE to try and hurry the introduction. That was due in NYC next Monday. By then the rest of the book should be in page and close to ready.