

3/18/77

Dear Rick,

Your call to Zebra was effective, as the enclosed carbon of my today's letter to Zacharias shows. Thanks.

They did not ask for many of the King papers I'd received but they did ask for copies of some of the more important ones. I got the impression that the lawyer, I think his name is Jerry, wanted them to show Geller, who had been supposed to come but didn't.

These are rare records. They tell an untold story, give an unreported view of the FBI as well as having great significance in many areas only one of which is the King assassination and its investigation.

If I did not tell you I've received perhaps 25,000 pages to now and there are more. Over 2,000 came Friday. I've not had time to read them. These are political records of frightening character to those who prefer not to live under an authoritarianism.

Sheer volume handicapped writing such. I've done a rough draft of the first chapter of The King Conspiracies just to get started. I'll have to add much.

Next week I'll have another 2,000+ to-now secret pages from Memphis. I do not know the volume of what remains in that office. I'm getting lists from which to select from other field offices. A search of at least a half-dozen is assured and complete compliance by 11/1/77 has been ordered by the judge. There will be a hassle, already begun. I'm going to Washington Wednesday to confer with the head of the DJ litigation section on the FBI's newest tricks, which include corrupting stipulations they asked to negotiate. What prompted them to want to stipulate, clearly, aside from the opportunities it presented for mere stonewalling, is the fact that the judge had said she'd accept a per se Y. Bessie motion against them. We'll be doing that against the regular DJ as soon as Jim Lear has time.

The clipping enclosed is from today's Washington Post Magazine, called Potomac to last week. Maybe it give you some ideas? There should be a market for the socially useful books as well as those by crooks of notoristy. David Obst started out on that line rather well. I hear he has settled down with Random House.

You probably do not keep up with Freedom of Information litigation. It has become important to large corporations. They make most use of it, not people like me, if I do help establish the precedents and the language of legislation. If any client with this interest presents himself to you, Jim Lear is an authentic expert in the field. Although to the best of my knowledge he has yet to appear before a jury he is good enough in this field to have been invited to the district judicial conference by one of the judges before whom he has a case for me. Keep minds, especially of the AUSA's on the other side.

The market I see no publisher touching is for solid hardbacks with promise of long-term sale, especially among college kids. With the kind of money invested in the celebrities, real like Sherr and stinkers like Colby and Irlichman, any publisher making the same kind of investment can do well with any decent book. So many fail because they opt copouts, like is represented by the Hiles and the Garry Franks on the King assassination. The market on these topics is sophisticated and discriminating. There are other subjects not touched to the best of my knowledge.

Best to all,