

May 4, 1967

Mr. Jim Garrison
District Attorney
New Orleans, La.

Dear Jim,

I cannot tackle the vast accumulation of my absence which I must do before I can get back to writing before writing to express my tremendous respect and appreciation for your dedication, purpose and effort and that of all of those serving with you who I met. You certainly have imbued them with it. They are a credit to your city and to public service.

Particularly does it please me because in this great moment in our history we suffered the abdication of the intellectuals and the lawyers. It is from the former that we should expect leadership and the communication of understanding. It is from the latter that we expect the upholding of our rights and liberties and the defense of the sanctity of our society. When both failed our society started to crumble. We are all in your debt, as is history and the free and honorable future we all want.

If I can help you in any way before I return, please let me know. I have already asked a number of people I know to help in various ways and I will let you know if they can accomplish anything. I am having a separate index card made of every individual listing in Oswald's pocket address book. I think it will help you. I expect soon to have had an exhaustive check made of the copyright files under all the possible names. If you learn of any others, please let me know immediately. A check of the New York records under Shaw's various aliases will be made.

Orest Pena has volunteered to appear before the grand jury. Please hold it off until you read what I have in my manuscript about him. May I then encourage you to persuade him not to make any public comment about deBrueys? This is not alone because I want to break it in my book. I have not communicated it to others working in the field because I think that premature revelation will impede the obtaining of further information.

Although I know you would not do so by intent, because you are so outgoing I want to ask you to make a special effort not to disclose the content of my New Orleans book by accident. As you read it, let me know if you want any of the documents referred to in it and I will copy and send them. As soon as I have assembled the documentation and commentary of the additional documents in Whitewash III: The Archive, I'll make copies for you, sooner if you desire. I am driving to finish it and Manchester Machievelli: The Unintended Unofficial Whitewash in two months. Meanwhile, I will go over what I took back with me as I can and will take the liberty of making suggestions.

I have written Lynn separately about several things.

Thanks you very much for the many courtesies and kindnesses

you extended. I do, very much, appreciate them.

It is a rare privilege, as, unfortunately, it should not be, to meet a man who takes so seriously the responsibilities of manhood and citizenship and of his profession and public obligations.

I believe you are engaged upon the recapture of our national honor and integrity. All power and success to you. You deserve it and we all need it!

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

P.S. I spoke to others on your staff when you were busy Tuesday, asking that you Xerox this, my last carbon, and return it as soon as possible. If you do this and it is no hardship, I would very much appreciate it if you could make several for me. I would like to have them to send to my agent in Europe, where interest in it already exists, and I'd like to have one to offer Harrison Salisbury, who could be helpful.