

Dear Jim, Lane and Freed books

3/23/77

Freed has told Les Payne that his book is delayed and that Lane's is not now coming out until May. Dick Gregory said the same thing on a NYV Channel 5 show of friends of Gloria Swanson. In that Gregory represented as their work all that Les did on the Invaders.

According to Freed, Lane and Shaheen were in touch and negotiating. Also Lane and/or Mann and Pottinger.

Shaheen offered Lane the transcript of the Redditt interview withheld from the "task force" report in return for all Lane got from Ray. I gather the refusal was Lane's. What did he have to offer?

Freed also says that Andy Young was blackmailed by Pottinger through Mann, Lane or both, with references to tapes and pictures. Whether or not true - and I can't imagine Pottinger doing it at all, leave alone that way - Young did support the committee.

Freed's description of the book is about what we'd expect.

Gregory said the advance was \$100,000 but the book would make millions all of which would be spent continuing to investigate the case.

I had a call from one whose name I recall as something like Mishkin of New Times. He wanted to know about how to get in touch with Pershaw. Maybe some day the sterling New York Investigative Reporters will learn and believe that there are phone books outside the Big Apple in their own eyes.

I told him. He asked me what I thought of the article. I told him I had not read it and did not have to: bullshit, all they'll print. I also told him I'd do nothing to encourage it but I'd not be surprised if Jerry laid a suit on them. I think he should. The most perfunctory check would show he was at work when they claim he had a meeting with Jimmy in buying the rifle in Atlanta. They quote Foreman as quoting Jimmy on this. Jimmy cannot have said that.

My hunch is that delays in the book are probably over the committee and what Lane bragged up relating to it and himself. What he had been saying had to be changed.

I'm sure that now there is casual reference to Les Payne.

However, I think that this was news to Prentice-Hall not only put them on notice but is definitive on Lane's representations, which should have put them on notice.

Hastily,