

Mr. Al Shallau
25550 Hawthorne Blvd., #305
Torrance, CA 90505-6832

11/30/92

Dear Al,

Again thanks for the thoughtfulness of your letter of the 27th. Perhaps I'd best begin to respond with some explanations.

My wife is 80, I'm a few months from that, we make out OK now, but we do not have the resources for any stay of any length for either of us in a nursing home. ~~As~~^{So}, as a matter of practice, we do not make any long-distance calls that are not urgent. So instead of phone^{ing}, as you asked, I'm writing.

I've been fortunate to ~~serve~~^{survive} a number of medical problems that are not infrequently fatal. A new discovery is that I have sleep apnea. Without going into what that can lead to, and hasn't, I have a strange sleep pattern, for the first time in my life. I fall asleep almost immediately, as always, but do not stay asleep. Then again I'm rapidly asleep and again up. After four or more hours of actual sleep I'm usually wide awake. So, because with some adaptations and adjustments I'm able usually to sleep longer if I retire earlier, I do that. Today I was up at one with 5 hours' sleep. If I'd not gotten a phone call I'd have made 6 hours. I retired at 7! And I used to work on a morning paper and around the clock. It takes me a little while to improve to my present norm most mornings but unless I do not feel up to it I go to my desk and work. I usually leave about 4:30 to walk at a nearby shopping center, returning about 6. After resting briefly I'm at my desk again. Three mornings this is delayed until about 9 because after that walking I have blood tests and then physical therapy.

We have more medical appointments than most folks but they are almost all local and take little time. ~~Save~~^{Save} for them and for shopping we are usually home. Or, the probability is that any time will be OK for a visit. If you come and decide to stay in Frederik, the closest of the better motels are on opposite sides of the same street less than 10 minutes from here. Most of the recent visitors prefer The Red Horse Inn. The Holiday Inn is the other one there.

The local shop that has been making xerox copies of Oswald in New Orleans for me almost double the price. Before ordering them to proceed with it I today started asking for estimates from other places able to make a good binding. I hope it will not be long before we have them because people want them and because not having them makes extra work for us telling people we have to backorder them. The sale is not great enough to justify making many copies at our ages. Or the price is a little higher.

Our book are in the Bowker listings so the colleges and universities and the book stores can learn how to get them by their normal means. If they want them. Most prefer to stick with what is advertised and current and few care about content.

It is interesting that you use the word "timid" to describe the publishers in 1965-6, which is when the problem began and was magnified by my proving that a publisher is not indispensable to the author. I put Whitewash in general distribution, so to speak, a month before the booksellers' annual convention, then always in Washington. There must have been a dozen of the publishers who would not print the book ^{who} ~~for~~ praising ^{ed} me for ~~my~~ courage in doing it. Including some supposedly liberal. They were acknowledging that they were afraid.

The exact time of the one visit I anticipate until about the first of the year has not been set but will be during the Xmas holiday season.

Best regards



Harold Weisberg

LAW OFFICE OF
AL SCHALLAU

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November 27, 1992

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, MD 21702

Dear Harold:

Thank you very much for the package of books that I received on Wednesday. I am anxious to read all of them.

I just finished reading Howard Roffman's book PRESUMED GUILTY. His book is really an outstanding contribution to American history. From reading his book, your status as his mentor comes through loud and clear.

I am particularly interested in reading your book OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS. So the quicker that you can get that book to me, the better.

Some time in the near future I would like to come back to your home and discuss with you the future distribution of your books. I would like very much to assist in causing your books to be extensively distributed to public libraries and university libraries throughout the country.

Your books constitute an enormous contribution to our country. I think it is shameful that our timid publishing companies have not caused your books to achieve the very widest of public distribution.

Please call me upon receipt of this letter to let me know when I could come to see you.

Best regards,



AL SCHALLAU

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