

6/18/77

Dear Roger,

My stay in Dallas was made unholy by the insane Ray escape attempt, which kept the phone ringing off the hook despite my wife's first-rate judgement in filtering the calls to me. It was shortened by persuasive and after-the-fact correct arguments that I go to NYC to do the Wednesday Good Morning America show. And Perry and Carrico are no longer there. It appears they, if not also others, have moved to Portland, Ore. after some administrative or other Parkland problems I did not have time to explore.

While I now have to complete by mail what I'd intended completing while there, in all other ways I regard my trip as successful.

Even new contacts. Hugh Aynesworth had not only tried to be helpful and is friendly-- he is the one to print a correction of a UPI b.s. story having me believing there was some kind of deep and dark federal plot for Ray to escape and be offed in the attempt.

The one problem was guess where? Yup, the CBS affiliate. It may work out yet. But the other successes were such that it will not make a great difference if it does not.

Even Tom Dillard helped. I have prints he made of negatives nobody knew he had. This is restricted to the area of my purpose in going there. He may have more but I did not want to push too hard, given his past and known views. However, in fairness to him I must say that like all save those at the CBS station, he was fine in every way.

But I'll not be surprised if the CBS affiliate ultimately helps a bit.

Although I sought to avoid any media attention Ray made that impossible. I was up until ungodly hours last Friday and Saturday, 2 and 4 a.m..

Working days I was there less than a couple of hours Friday, all day Monday and had to leave downtown Dallas by 2 p.m. Tuesday for the NYC plane.

To this moment the only personal negative within my Dallas experience was Abe Zapruder. Henry Wade remains a friend. Confidentially, I spent close to two hours with him. His greeting was "When are you going to bring me a case I can take to court." I told him not to hold his breath, that the status has run on perjury and anything else is pipe-dreams. I like him as a person and have observed first-rate practise as a DA, evening working out justice for the abused outside of court. Don't even be taken in by that good ol' country-boy appearance. He is sharp. While there is much about him I'm sure I don't know, from what I do I'd be surprised if any major city has a better DA.

While I was told that UPI probably invented the b.s. on the story saying the opposite of what I did on WFAA, if you saw it, my hunch is that one of a pair of nice and bright and ambitious young WFAA reporters fed the crap to UPI. It did make a lead, as they knew. They have precious footage of Epstein closing the door on Bill O'Reilly who just managed to prevent it, so it was swining in short arcs. There is going to be an Epstein story yet.

Dick Russell phoned me from L.A. He is horsing around with the Hall story. I hope it does not come out as mere disinformation. The ultra Lester Logue did not offer Hall that \$50,000 and Hall did not say he had. The Enquirer and Oltmans did.

I don't know what if anything the courts will do with it but I'll be filing a case for the patching of that Dallas curbstone before the end of May 1964.

My experience with Hartman and his Gal Friday is more human than any I've ever had with any prominent TV personalities. No wonder their ratings are going up. Even if my TV is not on then.

Best,

B) To Perry:

1) Did he encounter Buckley at Parkland and tell Buckley about the throat wound?

2) Can he pin down just when he had his telephone contacts with Bethesda? Did he speak with anyone besides Humes?

3) When CBS tried to interview him in 1967, did they show him the transcript? Did they or anyone else pressure or threaten him in any way, shape or form to embarrass him by making it public unless he cooperated with CBS? Did anyone in an official capacity ever threaten him with a perjury charge if he didn't go along with CBS? Was there any agreement made between him & CBS not to make the transcript public?

C) To Caruso: Did he administer Solu Cortef on his own initiative, or was it Buckley who supplied it? Did anyone ever suggest to him that he fudge his testimony on this point?

Let's talk by phone in the near future. Best regards,
Roger