

3/28/67

Dear Joan,

Your interesting letter is what I say, less explicitly, in both books. I'll soon be saying more and more explicitly. My N.O. book is behind schedule, half again as large as I'd planned, and I expect a publisher. I also have an agent now. Dell is going to do WHITE WASH II but distribution of the first book leaves much to be desired.

On radio, I agreed to something several months ago that is now ripe. I'm to tell the story of WHITEWASH in 39 weeks, commercially. I expect a contract any day. I have made no TV deal, nothing on movies, and I have other ideas I'll not be able to handle personally.

In three weeks I'll be on the Manchester book. If there is such a thing as two to three uninterrupted weeks I'll then have it finished. I may get to New Orleans briefly. After that is done, another three placid weeks and I'll have WHITEWASH III ready, save for the artists work (unless I get a publisher). It will be a real shocker. After that I anticipate no writing rushes and I think I'd best slow down to a six day week and an 18 hour day for a while. But I'll have a little more time than I do now. Aside from the radio tapings.

There is another possibility. I have a member of the New Orleans Cuban community who knows them all and what their politics are who writes me he is willing to talk to me and can give me enough for a book. He speaks no English and I no Spanish. But I think you can see that this can have its own kind of interest and value, regardless of his own politics, which are anti-Castro but I do not know the shade.

Please excuse and understand my haste.

Sincerely,

Dear Harve, Bringuier tape arrived yesterday. If you talk to him again, pick up where you left off asking him about the first and subsequent times he met Ferrie (about 1961, Jan.) and try and get a few details of Ferrie's beliefs and activities, speeches (so violent right-wing groups cut him off), associations with other Cuban groups (with which, despite his denials, Bringuier also was associated with. Bannister had a detective agency that was in the anti-Castro (probably also gun-running) business. Bannister had a heart attack and is dead. Former FBI agent. Jack S. Martin and David Lewis worked for him and supposedly saw Oswald in his office which was in bldg used for a while by a Cuban group with which Bringuier had an association. Try and get him to talk about the raid on the camp (not because of an alleged spy who was actually fleeing the ultimate prosecution for violation of immigration laws and wanted to get out of US), about changes in US-Cuban policies, CIA money (they all got some), when it stopped. Carlos Quiroga, who introduced him to Butler of INCA, is an interesting character, young and possibly important and seemingly intelligent. Names: Archia Smith, Layton Martens, Rudolph Richard Davis, Interian, the two from the camp whose transportation back to Miami he arranged, Arnesto Rodriguez Jr and Sr., Manuel Gil (Also with INCA, production manager), others who knew Ferrie (and he should know some). He keeps everything. Try and get him to look up the license number of the car the Benes gave him that he phoned to the FBI (didn't have state). Perhaps in two weeks we can confer and call him? Best, H.