

2/6/67

Dear Joan,

After your long period of using up envelopes with too much postage already affixed, you have switched to a false-economy campaign of affixing too little. Hence your letter of 8/31 was delayed.

I have read it and the Prospectus in haste to make immediate response. It leaves me wondering if I know the guy it talks about.

John may have some suggestions soon. Until then, let me restrict myself to a few comments and a general expression of approval of the idea. This sort of thing is entirely strange to me.

Can you explain the name Alfred Kni? Has it anything to do with Kenie Kinney?

It is possible I may finish the book I'm now working on, the fifth, this month but not certain.

Parallax, which is publishing the New Orleans book (I am co-publisher, but I wonder if it can be included) has retitled it Oswald in New Orleans, my original title, and the subtitle, I believe, is Case For Conspiracy. CIA Whitewash will appear on the cover, but not as part of the title.

Soon I'll fix the title of the current work and let you know.

I wonder about the timing: before anything can come of it, with the possible exception of Manchester ^{schisvelli}, I'll have everything written. If I do with that as I intend, it will be done quite soon. That leaves only promotion and distribution, for I'll have the writing done. What I had originally conceived as WHITWASH III will then have been published, two parts making Oswald in New Orleans, Photographic Whitewash, a third being the current book, and I fear I'll just have to dump the remainder in the back of that, making a rather large book.

Your income figures are pleasant to consider but I fear optimistic.

There may be some likelihood of this kind of figuring when the whole thing breaks apart, for this is the basic, definitive work, but the sales and promotion it would take to achieve such sales today are expensive and extensive. I think it erroneous to believe the coordinated campaigns by AP, CBS and NBC have not confused the public and had the immediate effect of reducing sales of all contrary books.

My own opinion, for what it is worth, is that the brightest prospect is movie, next TV.

John mentioned something about the time getting close for hardback reprint in a carefully-edited set. We've had little time to discuss it, but I do know that he planned or had initiated some research on this. We'd best hear from him on this.

About two weeks after the Parallax book is out I should be setting out on a brief tour that will perhaps start in New Orleans and will include several days in San Francisco before return. A week ago the Parallax hope was that this would be about three weeks from then, publication, that is. If they are close to this, I should be able to leave about the beginning of October. Perhaps we can talk about this more then, benefiting from what John might have to say. I had a phone call from Garrison yesterday to say that he had finished the foreword, would like me to rejoin his staff, so to speak, for a couple of weeks, etc. He then thought it unlikely the Shaw trial could begin in less than 45 days because of things the defense will do. He is ready. He also thinks it likely this part of it, with the ramifications, may take a couple of years. I'd like to start out in N.O. and build a little before Calif. I'll have a little special Calif. fuels, if we can find a means of ignition.

Let me know what you think of the incomplete thing I sent on the CBS series when you can. It will be a couple of weeks before I can spend any more time on that. I've sent copies to a few of the others working in the field for their comment. I'm particularly interested in whether there is, within the meaning of the law, plagiarism.

Sincerely,