

Dear Hal:

However farcical that CBS series was, it was nonetheless a real slicky; the question is, then: What will be the lay-public's reaction in regards continuing attitudes?

I believe the outcome will bounce back to bite CBS (et al) right in their complacent asses. Their putting the cop-out rap on the CIA, FBI and Secret Service has all the potential of granting you a far higher level of credibility, if only that the current stench about the CIA makes them all vulnerable.

If you or the others get equal time I'll eat all the barbecued crows you can whip up from coast-to-coast. But there is another mechanism to accomplish the same (limited) end.

Harv and I discussed the following concept this morning: CBS radio has condensed the TV bit into a 50 minute kiss-off. It is being force-fed to the O-and-O's, and dangled to the affiliates; Harv is in fact running it tonite, after which he will have a panel of local affacionados sitting around to pick it to pieces, followed by the regular callers-in.

I have suggested: Some time within the next 5-6 weeks (aimed at the August 8th Andrews trial in New Orleans) Harv will have sent you a dub of the CBS bit, which you would then program your own rebuttal-interjections on tape, which you would then send back here for the necessary editing and continuity. The end product would become a tandem affair, which could be extraordinarily revealing. This same tape would then be made available to (interested) broadcasters in the CBS network from coast-to-coast.

The fellow from KSL in Salt Lake City is my house guest for this entire week; his most immediate response to my agitations was that while the critics' clinical positions were not known to him, he respects my intellect. He will accomodate my requests - as long as the Mormons don't leap from their spired nests and wipe him out. (He is the only non-Mormon Executive with the Radio Service Corporation of Utah!) His official title is Vice President in charge of Civic and Cultural Affairs. His name is Wes Bowen,; he is the most well-known (and respected) voice and personality in the Mountain West, currently does a one hour nite show called Public Pulse (the fore-runner of all such shows); KSL has 50,000 watts/clear channel coverage that hits 45 states, which is by far and away the most comprehensive broadcast pattern in America. Wes will be in touch with you to discuss the preliminaries just as soon as he reads WHITEWASH and WHITEWASH II. (KSL too is CBS affiliated.)

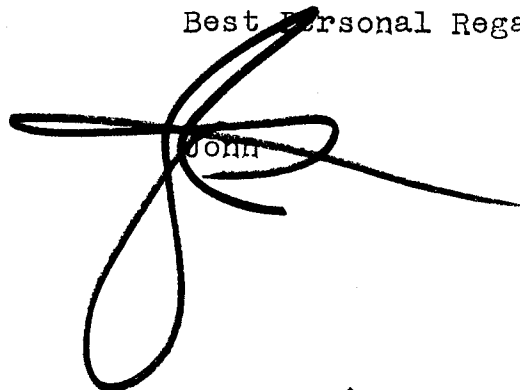
Let me offer some considered thought: The reaction of the critics now to the avalanche of the mass media is going to be of paramount importance; if you people come on too strong, you'll lend credance to the "fanatic" and "rabid" talk; if you~~xxx~~ move ahead with your "cool" well under control, then those who have publicly lost theirs, - which is just exactly what the mass media cats have done - will have had their last say.

The movie talk has been held in obeiance until CBS finished their hokey bit; (You might wish to sue them for plagiarism too -- since their WHITEWASH was done without your permission.) I expect some kind of response this week; but, remember -- I alluded to the possibility that CBS would validate the critics, not crap on their projected grave sites. Their attitude might well be shattered by the mass move to wipe you wild-eyes out. I'll keep you posted, whatever.

Harv will keep the flame alive out here -- without flagging. If I can convince Bowen of the same calling, then we'll have enlisted a most impressive and influential quater in the broadcast spectrum.

Much good luck and speed on finishing this monumental writing feat; My best to your magnificent spouse.

Best Personal Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name "John". The signature is stylized with a large loop and a horizontal stroke that crosses itself. The name "John" is printed in a small font directly beneath the signature.

P.S. FROM NOW ON SEND MAIL TO MY
POSTAL ADDRESS: P. O. BOX 2850
SAN FRANCISCO