

10/7/71

Dear Ned (Gary),

In order to do the extra things I had to yesterday, I then got up and four until a reporter from the Chicago Daily News came (his plan: a story for the anniversary, my addition, the suggestion that he ask their syndicate to consider serialization rights to FN, to which end I showed him a couple of things. They excited him.) Although I also got up early-not that early-this a.m., it is because I have to leave on what might be called an errand of mercy early and for a large part of the morning. So my time at this moment is limited. I wrote for several purposes and will, in time, come to each.

Lil's present estimate of the length of the last part is about 150 pages. Now this is for the ~~xxi~~ text proper only. I've not yet written the overall conclusions, but they are not part of an immediate problem. Nor have I read the introduction, to which a bit more of the story of the official story will have to be told, of which I'm made notes. For reason I will go into as soon as there is time to do it in detail, it is urgently necessary to copyright the past part as soon as possible. This means the basic fact, not the whole thing, thus the intro and the conclusions are not immediately urgent. So, it now look like the xeroxing job will run about 150 pages.

Jim also was here yesterday. He is going to speak to the place he has found least expensive for xeroxing. He doesn't expect to be able to make the kind of deal he did for the copying of the declassified materials, where the greater volume also got a lower rate (and the stipulation they could take their time doing it, where the cost was a little below the regular rate. His belief is that the cost per page will be 6¢. This means that each set will cost \$9.00. It requires two for the copyright office, and we should decide immediately what other copies we need immediately. I say immediately because with time and trouble and mailing we can cut this price in half by cutting the size in half, but I also think that for our more important purposes, this has two great liabilities, size too small for most people we may want to interest and time. I have to have at least one working copy, and there should be two, one for making up for corrections alone. I also need a separate one for indexing. There should be a clean one to be here for examination. That is five. Lil will use the indexing copy for the correction copy, eliminating one. She will thus correct what errors she sees as she indexes (and it is neither necessary nor desirable to hold off on copyrighting until the corrections are made.). I'll use the working copy for my corrections also, eliminating a copy that way. So, the question then comes, what other copies do we need or want. Will you want one before the corrections are made? I think you'll not need it before then, for you'll have the full text before then. After I make the corrections on the working copy, I can send you that copy after the corrections are posted, after which you can return it or we can replace it. But we will need copies for other things, like showing to publishers, magazines, syndicates, perhaps politicians.

Because this is your money, I think it should also be your decision. But it has to be made promptly and the xeroxing must be done as soon as the final page is typed, for reasons I'll have to go into separately and will as soon as I have completed the last 20 pages of writing of the middle part, or not sooner. I think we should have a copy for the chance we can get some Kennedy person to use it. I usually have one copy for the making of half-size copies for these critics we want to have copies, but with recent developments I'm taking a more restrictive view of that. One last word, and you can believe me or not: concerning the loftiness of purpose, realor alleged, but what most of the decent ones of us assume, there is remarkable dishonesty among too many, a subject on which in part Gary can inform you in. We now face such a thing, and that, in explanation, if one of the things I will soon address in detail. Meanwhile, this introduces a new element of speed, and I'd like to know what, if anything, has eventuated with the man you saw in RFK's office, for I may have to be there fast and if necessary cold. Something impends that has the potential of being hurtful to my, if it doesn't have the intent. From this, when do you expect to be near here again? As soon as I have the xeroxes, I will make a second trip and hand them in for copyrighting rather than mailing. This is not now done at the Library of Congress proper but in Va. As of this moment, even the gas money will be a problem. In a rash,