

Dear Harold -
In the CBS Radio
report they did not
mention your name -
they said " a recently
declassified Commission
transcript . . . of the
closed session of
January of 1964 - - a
copy of the transcript
~~of~~ obtained by the
Associated Press. "

L.C.

Dear Lillian, Castellano

5/22/75

Thanks for your note, the check and the clips.

You are the only "old timer" from out there and almost the only one from anywhere to have a word to say about my breaking these transcripts and other documents (the misuse of which I do fear) loose.

I think it is a commentary on many of the personalities.

It is inevitable that in news stories there will be errors. In this one, for example, at one point there is a confusion between Rankin and Warren.

The one that bothers me most I want you to know about and to tell any who may be interested.

The 1/22/64 transcript was a joint project. I gave the entire story to the AP reporter and to all the others I tried to interest in if for more than a month before AP decided to go for it.

Jim Lesar, who is probably entirely unknown to you, is perfectly wonderful, entirely honest, and the best thing that has happened to us in more years than I want to remember. There are few like him and none his superior. He does all this legal work without fee. And he can't afford to. He is just beginning to practise law and he just had a baby.

And without Paul Hoch this would not have been possible. I really did believe that the whole thing had been memory-holed. I was too busy at the time the contrary proof became available to even look at it. Paul, who is very sharp on these things, did spot it. I am the first to have asked for it but because Paul did spot the contrary evidence I offered to let him handle it all alone. He and Jim, apparently, decided that because I would be able to do the necessary battling (you can't imagine what it can be!) and because I had made the first request, we should all do it together. So, the work that Jim did was for two clients. The second was Paul.

I'm very sorry the reporter simplified the thing too much and that there was no mention of either of the other two. He knew, so I suppose the consideration was space. Once I learned of the omission I did ask AP by phone, that Saturday afternoon, to add both names. They said it was too late. And as a matter of fact, the minor factual errors went uncorrected in the stories I've read even though I know they put the corrections on the wire. I spoke to AP Washington last Saturday afternoon and evening twice about rectification.

The CBS report you heard was the original AP story for radio use. I heard it Saturday afternoon. Consistent with the much shorter length of radio stories, it mentioned no names.

There is to be about four pages in next week's USNews and World Report. I do not know what form it will take but I have spent some time with them on it and loaned them much.

Thanks and best,