

10/24/67

Dear Maggie,

In this morning's mail I had a reply from Arnoni.

This time I felt I could not let his slanders go unanswered. I regret very much that the man has so little control over himself. Because in the past I have made a few comments about the attitude of some of the smaller journals to me and because when I was out there last year, I also commented that he had seen fit to attack me in a slanderous letter, I think I should send you the entire file of our correspondence, beginning with the form letter I wrote in advance of general circulation of WHITEWASH.

It is difficult for me to understand what can motivate him. This is all the communication between us. We have never met, never spoken by phone.

Vince did a similar thing with Dave Dellinger when he sent Vince the copy of WHITEWASH I had sent and asked for a review. Vince, in effect, tried to blackmail me, a thing he later regretted and was man enough to atone for publicly and without prompting when we appeared together on a radio program. Arnoni dies harder.

My purpose is not to in any way diminish your interest in him or your support. However, the day will come when he will address the wrong person this way, and he will then, perhaps too late, recognize what the end can be.

Here again we have another manifestation of this strange aberration of Sylvia's, that very strange compulsion that requires her to wage a campaign against Garrison. That she might want to record her opposition, her dislike, I can understand. But that she forgo other and constructive things she can do with the time in favor of this campaign is to me incomprehensible. It is learning-like and I have asked her to study her attitude and see if she has the wrong kind of emotional involvement.

There are too many of these things about which I must be publicly silent.

My first copies of Oswald in New Orleans arrive this a.m. As soon as I am in touch with Parallax without making a special call I'll guess the number you all can use and will give one of you the name and address of the wholesaler. I've not heard from Steve, who I'd asked to give me the number.

On the copies I will have with me: I have started to duplicate my entire New Orleans file, or at least what I quote in the book, which is most of it. You can figure on copying any of these you want or you can note which ones you want and when I return I'll copy them for you. Thereafter, depending on my supply or paper and time, I'll copy others on other subject and bring them along. I have a day less because Jim wants me to be there over the weekend to give us more time to talk. I plan to have a press conference there and charge that, like in so many places in the country, those who control what people may know have ordained that this, too, of my books, is not to be available to the good people of New Orleans. I also plan to say this is typical of what happens when a President with the announced aims of this one is murdered.

I'll mail this from town this afternoon, just before supper. I'm taking some pictures in to be copied. I'll have them with me, if you want copies. If I hear from Parallax by then, I'll enclose another note.

Best to you all,