

9/26/67

Dear Maggie,

In the material I got from the Archives today, from a hasty glance, the thing I ordered on 1026 is not included. This is miserably indistinct stuff and after my eyes snap back I'll go over it again. If I find it I'll include it, either with this or later, depending on if and when I find it. I have already written for those documents I ordered that were not included in what I got. Today I found a staff memo on one of your interests: Oswald's weight. I ordered it. I'll get in next Tuesday and will then copy and send you. It says what you know.

As the material is gone over to be made available, it is as though someone is trying hard to delay the availability of the more important films. There is more correspondence with the general public in what has just been made available than staff memos. If you want to know Saffie Zilch's apprehensions or opinions, or what all the radical right ~~was~~ wrote in telling how Oswald was part of a Communist conspiracy, I can probably get that easier.

One of the more interesting minor tidbits I discovered today is that Slewson was authorized to take a deposition from Odio in April (memo of 4/3) but it didn't happen. Not until July 23 did Liebeler do it. Then, in late August, that self-serving bastard had lots of questions to be asked of Marina (none for Odio, naturally!) He knew what he was doing when he said he'd like to get at the memos. Ex parte he can do things with them. I'm glad to be seeing them before I go out there.

Ball had a nice but not exclusive racket. He got six free trips (transportation plus \$35.00 per diem) authorized between Washington and California to June 30. The authorization was after 1/1/64. It is clear these were for personal business. It is a petty graft they all got. The closer they got to Washington, the more trips. Scooby's, with southern gentleness, were unlimited, as were those of the New Yorkers and those no farther. Incidentally, Ball was one of the two lawyers who interviewed the autopsy doctors. The other was Specter. I have the memo and use it in POST MORTEM, the rough draft of which is completed. It is one of the things I'd like to confront him with when I'm there. It is not to his present liking, I'm certain! One word doesn't appear in that or any related memo I've found: "neck"! In that place is the word "back". I am saying nothing about this publicly or to anyone, really, because I have much that goes with it and it is in this book, with the other things, in context.

NBC gave the Library of Congress a complete set of videotapes! Do you believe they'd have charged the Commission? The Commission also had them available! (After the memos in PW. Just found this.)

By the time I can come out I should have all this new stuff and have clear copies with me of the best for you to copy. If you have any special interest, please let me know immediately, for after these trips I do not know when I'll be able to go to the Archives again. I can always get things we know exist for you with little time consumed, but you may want things I have not enough interest in to buy. This is getting to be a horrible expense to me, and with Dell having paid me nothing of what was due in April- we can't even get an accounting- not having been able to pay the printer for PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITENASH (which is meeting many troubles, some, undoubtedly, inspired) and a new one soon to go into debt for, my financial shape is not like my expending wasteline. One lawyer thinks this is why Dell is laying themselves open to suit (that my agent and a lawyer decided upon, I think, a week ago- they haven't told me their decision. I learned today that several people or organizations have ordered big batches