

2/26/70

Dear John,

Thanks for your note of the 24th. If you have occasion to mention this to Bair again, a year ago next month he told me that if Gross didn't take care of this promptly, he'd send me a check and bill Saga for their share. I sure wish he'd do this. Our need is urgent. But I am glad he is being decent about this, even if he has let it drag.

On the brother, that would depend on what he knows. I suspect it is nothing about what would make good copy. I just do not think publishers will gobble anything on political assassinations now.

I suppose Baer will send the check to you. If he sends it to me, I'll cash it, rather deposit it, and settle with you thereafter, for we do need some of that very badly and immediately.

Kurzman is a nice guy. He was supposed to do a major story on WHITEWASH in 5/66 and got caught in some kind of situation in which I am confident he was entirely innocent, no more than a good reporter, involving the Dominican matter, and that was it. However, everyone looking for a copout says the only thing to do is solve the crime. On another subject would this be the prevalent liberal opinion, especially of those who did nothing to help poke holes at the time they now say it was acceptable.

What alternative is a possibility? What conjecture could be "justified" to those unwilling to believe anything?

Until such a time as the crimes(s) can be solved, and thereafter, as an historical necessity, it is essential to document what was done, what can be documented. Unless one would feel comfortable under Ameriform fascism.

We'll be filing the first of the suits soon.

Do you want to keep two copies, one for you to read and one to let others have, either those who might be interested in making publication possible or those who might have other means of providing other help? I now have a couple of copies, so there is no immediate, urgent need.

Congratulations of the scholarship. Best to all,

Sincerely,

Feb. 24, 1970

Dear Harold:

Baer told me last week that Gross had still not answered. Baer said that he was going to sue. If a check doesn't arrive from Dell in the next week or so they are obviously going ahead with the suit.

I will xerox the remainder of the manuscript by the end of the week and send you one or two copies. Of course the book that publishers would gobble is a book told from the point of view of Ray's brother.

I met an old friend of yours in the library the other day: Dan Kurzman. He has left the Post to work on several books; one on Israel is coming out this spring. He said that he believed that you had something but that it was not enough then, nor now, to merely poke holes in the work of others. He said that a new alternative must be proposed and justified. Sensible?

I had some clips for you but I think they are not too important. Needing the money, I am working part time for my father. I won a scholarship in school which helps too.  
Best to Lil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be the initials 'JH' or similar, written in a cursive style.