

Dear Dick,

2/23/93

In thinking this morning about David's phone call yesterday I believe I was not as helpful as I should have been. ~~Sh~~ould have been because he'd indicated to Lil the purpose of his call. I suppose that in part this was from my concerns of the past month or so about my medical situation and in part because I'd not earlier given it any thought because I'd not been consulted. That did not trouble me but because of it I'd not given any thought to the cover or the content of the condensation.

The unfortunate title, "~~The~~ Complete Whitewash" has and continues to give us problems, time taken for responding to phone calls and to letters and reduced sales of all the books because ~~it~~ of it. It does mislead, including the book sellers.

I think that with that book the norm of very large type is not as important as a fair reflection of the content, with the word "Whitewash" prominent. I think I once suggested this to you. I think also that what else can help the sale is emphasis on the fact that it is a condensation, of umpteen ~~times~~ hundreds of thousands of words.

As I think back on it now I believe that I'd not made any offers in part because I did not feel I should intrude and perhaps thought I'd have been able to show David the kinds of letters I get that could be used to promote the book, including in it. I did expecte him to come for "new information" on ^{Frame-}Farrem-Up. He appears to have been too busy and when he did not come that was no longer on my mind as I pushed to complete what I still think of as NEVER AGAIN!The Government Conspiracy in the JFK Assassination. I'd never kept a file of the thousands of the finest letters but about a year ago decided to ~~keep~~ keep a separate file of some not for publicity but for archival purposes.

In addition to the cover reflecting that the book is a condensation, it was understood that it would also tell the reader how he could get the unabridged books. If it does that there will be an immediate conflict between it and the cover title.

As I told David, Unsolved Mysteries was here Friday. I enclose a copy of what I wrote Wrone about it. It will be seen by many times the number who'll see the coming Thames TV/HBO version of "the trial of James Earl Ray," by which I'd refused to be employed and to appear on. A year ago, before the Fox TV and this coming show that always has more than 30,000,000 viewers. I'm told up to 40-50,000,000. No matter how they cut the interview I am certain it will include some of the "new evidence." As of this past Friday it had interviewed only two others, jim Lesar and Robert Blakey, who had headed the House assassins committee. I anticipated he'd turn them off so I gave them a bit he'll not like. I have the feeling that however they cut, and they'll have to cut much, it will have much of me and should also be an exciting, informative show.

As of the time David asked me about my health situation I knew only that not having had any report on the results of the barium-enema X-rays I'd made an appointment to see the local hematologist, for tomorrow. Yesterday afternoon one of the internists I'd seen

did finally phone to give me the results. There is a left-side polyp and ^here may be a second one on the left side, apparently not entirely certain from the reading of the X-rays. The left side means less of an invasion and that means less opportunity for a trauma. Normally this is outpatient but I can't risk that. The other of this pair of internist's had actually scheduled the colonostomy examination for a week ago yesterday before it ^{dawned} dawned on me what that meant, I was that upset over what led to his seeing me in the local hospital emergency room Sunday the 14th. I then cancelled it and went ahead the rescheduled X-rays. He was going to do that when my blood that afternoon was taking longer to clot than the range prescribed at Johns Hopkins and that range begins at two times as long as pre-anticoagulation normal. If that is not enough to be really frightening, as it was that Sunday, I also decided not to take his advice and skip the next day's testing of the coagulation time, so that the records of the regular testing schedule would be complete in the family doctor's records. The next day, the ~~14~~ 15th, without any added anticoagulation, which I'd have had if I had not ignored the internists' advice, it was taking the blood much longer to clot, so long that with the skipped dosage it would have had me at the hemorrhage level. And he ~~was~~ was going to risk the possibility of a complication with the invasive test! So, I was thoroughly apprehensive.

One of my concerns comes from the extreme fragility of my skin. I cannot ignore the possibility this may be true of any surface, although I do not know. Even during the taking of the X-rays when I merely turned over, inhibited a bit by the machine above me, lying on the table that had a pad on it and a ^{sheet} sheet on that, more than an inch of the skin on my right elbow peeled back ^{each} an inch ^{each} way. I called to the technician to bring be a pad and some adhesive. She came with a bandaid and because I felt it should be covered immediately I took no more time in the hope that with the skin, really only the outer skin, pressed in place it might adhere. There was no sign of blood when she applied the bandaid but as usual it later seeped out and continued to past the edges of the bandaid and onto the adhesive. So, I'll have to leave that on for a while now or I'll be pulling skin off in removing it. Give you an idea of one of the causes of my apprehension over the internist's countermanding the arrangements of the hemstologist and why I restored them. And of my state of mind.

One of the reasons I'd made the appointment for tomorrow with the hematologist was to get a referral to other local internists. Now I will be asking him to make the referral to Hopkins. If he does not I'll proceed on my own. I know the doctor I want, a stranger to me. Another reason is that the other internist had had me rush to the emergency room when he phoned for another reason and I told him I was glad to hear from him. He asked why and I told him my stools had turned blackish. He had me rush to the hospital because he said that is an indication of bleeding in the stomach, where I have a healed ulcer. So it turns out it is also caused by iron supplementation, which he knew I'd been told to take and was taking. Or that fight was for nothing but another local medical mistake with me. Our best,

Harold

While I'm at it I should add this postscript. I'd been after a friend I'd urged to interview the army's top 1960s' top specialist in wounds, the doctor who was to be called in in all wounds to all VIPs, for the transcript of his interview. The last time I nudged him on it my friend sent me the transcript. As soon as I read it I wrote another chapter addressing whether there was an Army conspiracy. He was not called in when JFK was shot, and he could easily have been at the hospital before the corpse was, and what he had told Specter and many others, Commission, Secret Service, the FBI, quite a few in all when they conferred, that the Specter single-bullet mythology, basic to the official mythology, was a ballistics impossibility. ^{This} led Specter and the Commission to have him return to the Army's Edgewood Arsenal and conduct the required ballistics tests. They were done 10 times and each of the ten times they conformed his expert opinion on the absolute impossibility of the official story. So he was never called back to consult or to testify. He and the Army destroyed the official story, the Army violated its rules, his words, ^{by} not to send ^{it} him to the autopsy, and with what else I've added to it, testimony ignored by all the so-called subject experts, Commission testimony, it makes a strong addition to the case for a military conspiracy. Wrono had just read that chapter when we spoke Sunday. He was quite impressed by it. It is solid!

So, friend who once told me I'm the most conservative man he knows, I do think I have done what I told you I would do in this book. ^{If} you remember that. I do!

Wrono's university work and this extra chapter kept him from meeting his Valentine's Day target for retyping the draft of the last chapter. He has been so busy I do not see how he has managed to do all this extra work.

I should have suggested to David, who said he was about to leave for California, to send Wrono a copy of the reprint. I'm certain he'll get orders placed for it by book stores, including his universities.

My young friend who could use only a minute of that interview in his documentary, his master's thesis, has it all on tape, video. He is not ^{on} Unsolved Mysteries.

What I refer to above ^{is} added from the Commission's ^{own} ignored expert testimony is that the best shots in the country could not duplicate the shooting attributed to Oswald under greatly improved conditions, and easier ones. They were all masters in rating, infinitely superior to sharpshooter, that testimony says. They could not shoot as accurately or in the time Oswald allegedly had - even with more time.