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Dear David,

If I understood you correctly when you phoned^d earlier today you asked the publication date of Whitewash: the "Report on the Warren Report. That was August 17, 1965.

(Its last chapter was in the mail mid-February of that year.)

Lane's Rush to Judgement was rushed to be out about the middle of September, 1966.

Epstein's Inquest's pub date was about the end of June, 1966.

I do not know why you need this information and did not take time to ask because I was at the time being interviewed by a Baltimore Sun reporter for an article that is a regular feature in their Sunday magazine, "Mission Accomplished." And he had already had some of his limited time wasted for him when I was called by a reporter for The National Review. In thinking about this after he left I wondered if it could have to do with the dating, really the misdating, of the books by Meagher. So I'll tell you about that and what I believe accounts for it.

It happens that we had lunch at the UN one^d day when she had page proofs. She showed them to me. I skimmed a few of the earlier pages and my eye was caught, likely by my own name. Whatever caused it, I read the part at the beginning where she dates the books. She knew very well that she had misdated them. I made no issue of it but I did tell her that she had. When she ignored this I said no more about it.

She read the published limited edition of Whitewash in 1965. I could get the date from her letter in which she said that if a publisher would go for it she preferred it to be published rather than hers. So I also take it that thereafter she did much work on hers. In any event, she knew the limited edition was published before she read it in 1965. She also knew because I mailed her a copy the first day that Whitewash went into general distribution as I now recall May 7, 1966.

It was, from her account, a long time before Meagher married her. The marriage did not last long because he died. As I now recall she said he was an alcoholic, although she did not use that word. So, she had no children. I think she had a kind of repressed maternal instinct that impelled her to try to be helpful to younger people working in the field. Because there were virtually no women doing this she devoted much time to and lavished genuine^{maternal} affection on young men. To the point where it influenced her usually superb judgement. Like a mother who can see no fault in her children. One of the first of these sort-of proxy children, the first I now recall, was Ed Epstein. She just raved about his book without telling me anything about it before it was published and later. She read it before it was published because she did the index. It was the best, the very best, far better than hers or mine. Things like that. With great secrecy about the book even after review copies were out.

For the most part Epstein was yellow, a real coward, afraid of confrontation with anyone informed on the subject. I was in her apartment several times when she tried to get him to make a TV appearance and he refused.

One of those that he refused made it possible for me to make a ^{series} success of Whitewash because I was asked to replace him. That show was powerful and effective. It contributed to my bombing Inquest into paperback early.

It also led Channel 5 (NY) to schedule what it called "The Minority Report, the critics of the Warren Report, the other side refusing to appear at all with us.

Epstein was still chicken then. I was in her apartment just before that taping and she was doing everything but get down on her knees begging him to appear in confrontation. He refused and he did not appear, having told the station earlier that he would not.

Her interest in young men was not at all sexual. I know how she felt because I also feel that way and, remembering all the time older men spent with me when I was young, I do the same and for the same reason, to be able to help them. Unlike the past for me this today means I spend much time from time to time helping young women. It is circumstances only that accounts for this: Hood is largely still a woman's college.

Why she misdated the books I of course do not know. But I believe it was to help the young man Epstein. She knew she was lying, she knew it would be widely understood that she was lying and she did it nonetheless.

As one result, as she certainly knew, scholars of the future would after reading what she wrote credit Epstein with having published the first book on the JFK assassination.

In all of this she was also going against her own principles and liberal beliefs. She knew Epstein's was an angled book coming from and supporting the right. Especially the FBI and Hoover. And, like Lane but for other reasons, she had to know that Epstein was determined to pin all the failings of the Commission on Warren personally. (With Lane it was a personal grudge.)

I don't know if this addresses your interest but I give it on the chance it does.

Best to you all,

Harold