

6/1/77

Dear John,

Although I had questions about Zebra coming from their publishing of an obviously fraudulent book I did make an effort with them. What publisher is much better?

It was all downhill after an excited and exciting beginning.

Whether or not they are for real they appear to be no different than any other publishers on this subject: crap is great but the substantial is dangerous, self-described in other words for personal comfort.

They kept exulting about pie in the sky. I kept asking for bread on the table.

When I insisted they said they did not know what to do or say.

Why?

Because I asked for a straight publishing contract and nothing else.

So I have no contract and no way of seeking one and based on past experience no encouragement to seek one. The book must be done, more because the wretch <sup>Gene</sup> is obfuscating more daily, knowing nothing except how to commercialize. <sup>He</sup> is exculpating the errant FBI, actually.

I have to go to Dallas on one of my FOIA suits in 10 days. After I return and catch up I'll start writing. I'll need editing but I'll not be able to pay, so I'll be doing without editing again, alas.

Hope your book does well. Norton can do a good job.

My experience with them is what drove me to becoming a publisher.

They say on Whitewash in late 1965 and early 1966 for four months and then wound up asking me to do the irresponsible, charge the government with a JFK conspiracy.

There was no proof of it then, there still is not and I would not do it.

Conspiracy to cover up is another matter. That is what the book does prove.

I'm finding I do not have the physical stamina I had so I'm a bit behind in all physical work. However, I'm getting the pool ready. If the kids do not swim the larger half is safe for them. Hope you can make it up soon.

Based on your need to support a family I believe you made the right decision not to take the ~~new~~ house near here. Nice an area as it is for raising kids.

If you wind up with regular hours there are those who prefer to live in this area and commute to Washington by Greyhound or rail. Greyhound is in Frederick, the train 10-15 miles out of town. I believe public transportation will improve in time. There is the need.

Thanks and good luck,