

Dear Howard,

6/24/76

I'm delaying my morning walk to monitor what ABC airs, is anything, on yesterday's Schweiker-Hart report. CBS' was, as expectable, very bad, dishonestly angled. NBC had no special coverage this morning. Last night ABC seemed to be straight. I caught the end ~~after~~ after the first of three hysterical calls from Kabak. For a similar reasons I missed part of NBC's, but Rowan's treatment seemed to be straight. I caught Brinkley's wide followup. There is no joy in having forecast the reaction almost word-for-word last October and before then to those who influenced him early.

The Castro-kickback ploy is old. I recall it as an early defense, so early that it was being fed to Garrison in 1967 and that was not the first. I have a kickback file separate from a general one on plots vs. Castro.

The assumption of Oswald's guilt permeates now more than before. Schorr was explicit on it in conversation with Jim at Schweiker's briefing. Graham could not have been more unequivocal in a rather long a.m. CBS segment shortly after 7 this morning. The radio treatment I caught late last night and early this a.m. was lighter than I'd expected on the all-news stations I heard.

I've not heard a critical word about the Commission or staff.

If I correctly understand Kabak and if I correctly anticipate that he will think the whole world wrong he'll be turning elsewhere for attention and self-importance. The most likely are Jim, who will have no problem although he had three calls last night. He'll continue to say it is none of his business and pass it off. If Ed continues it will not be for long in the face of Jim's insistence on disinterest. However, on the chance he turns to you as he has already to Groden, from whom he expects to snaffle whatever he can, I encourage you to be brusque. Tell him you are overworked, as you are, and just do not have time, not even for conversation. Turn him off at the beginning if there is any approach and avoid problems.

I will have a set of the 1446 CIA pages if you want them. If you want them and don't want them now I can hold them. I have made an arrangement for xeroxing them. I expect the originals I obtained from CIA, a working set for myself, one from which Jim can draw for legal needs and the one the friend who is doing the work for me will first read and then give me. This has happened with the first perhaps 10%. I have these sets except for the one I loaned Kabak. (If you want to know how out-of-control he is I asked him to leave my originals alone and actually did lend him a dupe he could take with him. He knew he'd get the rest but he compulsively damaged an entire file I showed him and Scott for their understanding while copying it behind my back and after I told him I want nothing said about it until after I see if the story that may be sold is sold. He knew he was getting it. He says he is not going to use it, but he just had to do what I asked him not to with my copying paper almost exhausted and he just had to deface the originals.)

The friend who is doing the copying knows something about the process. He says that whoever did the original copying went out of his way to make bad copies, that some are so bad it is not accidental. I had some suspicions along this line from the exaggerated shadows that show. He confirmed that they are caused by numerous recopyings after the masking. Some of the copies he made for me are clearer than those from which they were copied.

I have requested better and unmasked copies. There has been no response I'll appeal soon. When I can check the file and see if there has been enough time.

Best,