

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 473-8186

New address: Route 7
Frederick, Md. 21701

December 9, 1967

Mr. Wesley J. Liebeler
Professor of Law
University of California at Los Angeles
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Liebeler:

Whether or not you had advance knowledge that I had promised the staff of the Pyne Show to reserve my material on the 514 Camp Street address for their show, I did and I kept my word. The staff of the Crane Show did know, for I specified it. I regard their departure from it and from other parts of the agreed-upon format with misgivings.

I now consider my promise to Pyne fulfilled. I will discuss this with you at your convenience, either on my next trip to California or, if you are as anxious as you pretended, before then, by telephone, on the Crane Show or any other that offers a fair division of time. If, as you professed, you are really anxious, please make the arrangements and inform me.

I tell you frankly I am surprised that you seemed to want to discuss this for of the many things having to do with your performance as a member of the Commission staff of which I know, from what I know it would seem this is an aspect you might rather prefer to avoid.

By now you should have ample evidence that I have not singled you out for special attention, have not sought to make you responsible for the mistakes of others, have avoided trying to make you the goat. From this I hope you will be willing to believe that what I really seek is the truth.

In my discussions with the Pyne staff, when it seemed that honoring my word might preclude that broadcast, the question of your simultaneous appearance came up. I agreed. It is they who decided against it on this show. I respect their reasons and agree with their decision. However, I made this proposal to them: That you and I appear together, with or without a moderator or a camera, for an open discussion on your part of the Commission's work insofar as I am familiar with it. I specified that after taping you be given the veto right. If after such a taping you are unwilling to allow the confrontation or an edited version of it to be aired, it is agreed in advance that it will not be. I have made no such reservation for myself. We might also do this under other auspices.

It should be obvious to you that this is more than fair to you. I make my reason explicit.

Mr. Liebler - 2

12/9/67

I believe that after you and I have a full and frank discussion, you may be willing to concede on this record that the job expected of the Commission has not been done and, in your opinion, still must be.

You may recall this is the explicit conclusion of my first book, to which I added that the body must be an official one, that the proceeding must be entirely in public, that the inquiry be one empowered and willing to punish such things as perjury, and that it be able to compel appearance and the production of records.

It is my belief that from the Commission's work with which you are most familiar, I can show you enough to more than justify this expression from you.

If you have any doubt about my motive, may I call to your attention that, when you made reference to your "integrity" on the Crane Show, I avoided mentioning your failure to pay me for WHITEWASH, which I sent you more than a year ago on your promise to pay for it? Or the second one, sent a year ago? You must realize what I could have done with the audience had I alluded to this.

I do not think it is possible to make you any kind of an offer more fair to you. I hope you will understand it is a sincere one, a further effort to learn the truth, a mechanism to permit you to liberate your own reputation from the confinement of the record.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg