

2/1/67

Dear Ray,

Thank you very much, supersalesman! I really do appreciate it. I'd be happier, now that you also are a publisher, if you at least took the wholesaler's percentage for your trouble and to help you with your own publishing problems. Would you? When you get a chance tell me how yours is doing. Also, I think I should get some more if you are not close to sold out. I'm going on a short trip next week and there are several things I might do with them. First, if I get near any book stores or press people, I can talk and show. And, if you'd like, when I'm on radio or TV, when I try and use it, I might also leave one behind if there seems to be genuine interest.

I stopped back at the Discount Book Store last Friday and three times Monday but each time the manager was out of busy. I'll go there again tomorrow and get those from him I was going to take to Seville. I haven't been to Seville for myself yet. I left the box with the manager asking him to take what he'd like and saying I'd be back for a receipt and the balance. He is often occupied with salesman and I've learned that is not a good time to interrupt him, especially this time of the year (Spring Lists).

Penn has an acquaintance now working in the archive on a specialized aspect. I introduced him a week ago Friday, went down to meet him last Monday and Tuesday and he wasn't there, and heard from him today that he is back and wants to see me, hence my tomorrow's trip. I'll also pick up some stuff that is being copied for me.

I'd especially like the time to work there now for I'm in the so-called working or staff papers that Liebelar talked about and the few files I've had are interesting. If there is any kind of an inventory, I'll buy a copy and send it out to you people for you to make your own copies, which is much cheaper if you have the facilities, for 20¢ a page is too high. Jones Harris tells me that despite Liebelar's public statements he is not happy about the opening of this material. I'll try and learn how it is arranged tomorrow, for I'll have little time to spend there, but I'll be away all of next week. Meanwhile, I get more and more behind in WHITEWASH III in which interest is undiminished. I've got several hundred orders. As I get more and more material ~~xxxxx~~ the probable cost of it grows, which makes me apprehensive, for I fear it is the kind of a book that stores may consider a non-book and be unwilling to stock. Unless I can find more time to promote it than I've found for II, it'll have little pushing. It will be a more costly book, hence I'm apprehensive for I do not see how I can charge much more. I've been hoping for some help from a small foundation but have had no word... My mail on it is, however, excellent and encouraging. Seven orders today.

Dell says they are interested in II, which they declined in September. I take it this means WHITEWASH is doing very well. I may learn more of this next week. It would increase the audience, but I'm reluctant to throw away the chance of hardback, the only opportunity a book really has for reviews and attention, and I do not want to be known as an author who can go only into paperback. Meanwhile, I've a commission from Saga, which is going the chapter "The False Oswald", to do a critique on Manchester. They haven't yet specified length. To keep myself abreast, get things on paper for public appearances and for any other interest that might eventuate (there is some that does not look serious), I've written 8,000 words. He has upset the tables more than Penn's dead ones. I do not think that what he has written of the assassination itself includes a single statement that is completely accurate. So, I'm thinking of a Manchester book. This gives

us a target less sacred than the Commission. I'd like any opinions any of you out there have to offer and any suggestions if any of you detect something less than obvious. You know my beliefs about his Kennedy relationship. I'm thinking of the title Manchester Machievelli: The Unintended Unofficial Whitewash. I also think there is a chance of publisher interest in this that is greater than criticism of the government.

In the new stuff I'm getting I'll have something that may particularly interest both you and Maggie. I'm getting a memo in which Dr. Light is quoted as considering it impossible that 399 caused the wrist wound, which is not entirely consistent with the interpretation of the Report, and one in which the staff wondered how the police knew to go to 1026, Maggie's discovery that I missed in the printed stuff. Also, of what I recall, a memo by Specter that I know is dated after he saw the autopsy report and I think after he saw the autopsy doctors of Hunnas, I do not recall which, in which he refers to the fatal wound as one in the back, not the neck. I've got the documents on the return of the Moorman picture and on the getting of the Zagruder camera. They did that so fast after I got on the radio and teased about Marina's nail file that they didn't trust the mail, sending it by a US Marshall and in such haste it was at the Department of Justice 5 days before the papers were drafted, just in time to tell the New York Times they had it in Washington, knowing it was en route. So they do respond.

Dave Lifton has not sent me the identification of the documents he said he would. Maybe it is just that he is too busy. I reminded him. But maybe it would be just as good if Liebler did not yet find out what I'm getting. He declined to be on the NY TV special when I was still on it (I got tossed off after my hassle with Nizer on what was the most corrupt show I've ever been on) on the ground he could not be on with Lane, yet I understand he had a debate then scheduled with Lane out there. Did it come off. If so, how.

I'm dishing this off while Lil is making supper and trying to think if there is any other news. Penn's friend has a few interesting things on the N.O. bit but he indicates it is not too exciting. A little bit more also on the story of the Teles Oswald, including broad written hints by Bringulier that there is more than he is saying that he knows. I'll be the names of all the photographers whose film is in the DCA-Wolper film and its history, etc. I've the name of the guy who took pictures inside the theater and a few other interesting things on pictures. Also a memo in which some of the staff wanted Marina to get a lie detector test and another showing that before she got a cent from the "scavengers" handling her 35% came off the top. Proof the Commission had decided Oswald was the lone assassin before they held the first hearing. Ball was with Specter when he interviewed the autopsy people in early March. Proof that initially there was no Commission doubt that Connolly was hit by a separate bullet. I think that's all I recall now.

If you need any more of II please let me know. Last time all you good people bought the, I was more broke then. Now I think I see daylight a few months away when I get an accounting from Dell, and I do not want any of you paying for copies you give to people you think should have them. Also, if you think you can sell more, wonderful. But I'd rather know in time to send cheaper than by air. It cost about \$20.00 to send that first batch by air, and then they were a week late.

You will not have time to reply before I leave on this trip. But there will be others, so if there are any missions I can perform for you in NY when I have time, please let me know. I cannot promise to do them, for I'm there for only short periods and have more than I can do. But if I can I can try. Best to you all.