

11/3/66

Dear Sylvia,

Just returned from Washington with too-little time for a newspaperman is due here momentarily for an interview. Don't know what happened with McKinney last night unless my party line was busy.

I've been to the archives. It is exactly as I told you and I'm sure you surmised. It is a can or worms. Nothing at all, just more window dressing and further deception.

I intend to write a story about it.

What is included is in the Federal Register.

I intend further work as I have time but the promo for the TV show and other already planned things leave little time. I'll find what I can and do what I can. I think I already have something.

The book is a sequel, going forward, picking up loose ends and showing exactly ~~who~~ the whitewash was done and by whom. I have been quite about it because some of my material has already been misused by those who didn't understand it, including those I informed of it in confidence. It is bad enough to have my stuff used by others. What is intolerable is their stupidity. I want it used right.

This thing is coming apart too fast. The mercenaries will, I fear, further misdirect it. This is one of the things that made me hurry with the new book.

For the moment I want to say nothing further about it. It is in the hands of a publisher who has read it and said nothing. We never judge our own work fairly or impartially so do not accept my appraisal, which is that it is more shocking than WHITEWASH and dates everything else.

I'd rather keep the few details out of general circulation among the others working in the field because of the history of the past.

This bit on the pictures may break the autopsy department rather soon. Others with more influence and connections are working on it.

Hurriedly,

Please send me the source of your quote from Liebel "will prove the 'R' findings are correct". I am generous to him in space in the new book. I want to be prepared for the day we confront. I've told UCLA I'll accept their invitation to go out and speak or debate and I've told Bill I'll go out whenever wanted. The time is getting close, at the rate things are unfolding. Good girl on Barry Grey. I wish he would use me by phone until I can get to New York. Right now there is the autopsy story. As you know, mine is the only complete treatment of this evidence. Sounds like you were on the show I couldn't make, as you think. I do not wish to fry and think generally you would be well advised to not say where your book is. However, should you want to ~~in~~ inquire about my experience at any specific house, I'd be glad to take the time to tell you. I found, generally, the editors were very decent and respectful of good work. Do not spend postage on ~~Minority~~ article on State Dept. I have it.

31 October 1966

Dear Harold,

Many thanks for the UFO clippings and for your two letters which I opened and read tonight just after seeing you on the CBS-TV Archives segments. Thanks also for your kind mention of my Jack McKinney broadcast. I had almost a dozen letters from listeners, in each case intelligent, well-informed, or at least well-meant.

No; I didn't get to see Penn. We were to have dinner Wednesday night but I had come down with a bad upper respiratory infection and I couldn't make it--anyway, I had laryngitis and was probably a danger to healthy companions. I did catch his WCAU broadcast, which was very good mainly because Penn comes through as a man of genuine feeling and courage, a man who can not reconcile himself to injustice. I'm glad you wrote to UCLA. Liebler must be losing what was left of his wits--imagine, announcing the initiation of an investigation AND its results ("will prove the WR findings are correct") at one and the same time! I do agree with you, Harold, that things are moving much faster than might have been expected--and moving our way, by and large.

Your segment on CBS-TV tonight was fine, I thought, certainly very fair and forthright. I was on the Barry Gray show on the 13th, perhaps the one you could not make--with Kupferman, Sauvage, and some irritating and irrelevant fools who knew nothing whatever about the WR but had the usual fixed opinions. I did not realize until afterward that I had done anything noteworthy, but the PR from Esquire (who got me on, mainly to publicize their December issue in which I have a piece dealing with items that should have been investigated and perhaps still can be) told me with bulging eyes and dropped jaw that I had "talked back" to Barry Gray and gotten away with it--I was really surprised, for all I did was to continue giving him a list of the anti-WR books that he had asked me to give and brushed aside his attempted interruption (what do I think of Mark Lane? to which I said later that it was irrelevant but if he wanted to know I thought his book was quite good, although I disagree with some of his interpretations of evidence). I am most interested to know more about your new book, about which I have been hearing murmurs. My ms. is at a good house and the editor who asked for it, after reading my TMO articles, is 100% for it but fears his higher-ups will resist any book on the subject, since it would come on the heels of at least 5 such books published since late spring. I am not counting too much on publication now but it is good to know that the editor thinks so highly of the ms. Must close--guest is at door. Warm regards, hope you are keeping well.

*Askin*