

5/1/68

Dear Sylvia,

Nothing developed. They didn't change, I didn't. Yesterday's news from England reaffirmed it was Lane's head start that cost publication there. Nothing else new except a different kind of emergency, the ancient pump finally went into a state of virtual collapse. We have been without water for two days and will be at least through tomorrow. Of course, I carry it in, but there are better things to do with time, save for the unaccustomed exercise.

One looks back and wonders about one's judgement. I should never have waited five months for Norton. I had what seemed good reasons, but it was an error, largely my own. Had I not, it would have been out here and contracted in England, close to out. The publisher there was really excited. Some day I'll show you his letters, reflecting his opinion, that of the dons, etc. They had already decided to make an offer when they belatedly learned of the Lane book. But this is rather strange because I early informed them of it. Possibly he meant he learned of the schedule. Of the Penguin intentions in paperback, for a contracted version, he indicates a minimum first printing of 50,000 copies in the autumn. I had earlier learned that the Rodley-head edition is due in June.

There is little else. Nothing new. I couldn't see anyone yesterday, and between the necessities and the pump had no time. I did read the interesting Stewart speech draft and found it interesting. If you ever have an extra copy of it or the finished speech I'd like to have it for my files. It is enclosed.

When we meet again, remind me to tell you what Lyle Stuart did. I think you'll enjoy it. Besides withholding his Vietnam taxes, that is. I'll bet they are in a separate account and he figures on getting more than his money's worth in advertising from it.

I'm inclined to agree with the note on your thermofax from last Sunday's Times. Of course, you know the Weinstein contents; I don't. But from what you indicate there is a good chance his book and one dealing exclusively with the evidence will complement each other. I hope so. I cannot get the Times here, so I do not know what appeared today. If you can send me a copy I'd appreciate it, or send me yours and I'll return it after copying here. I have business in two small towns tomorrow and doubt if a Times will be available there.

The enclosed copy of a bill introduced by Senator Morse and 14 other Senators bears an interesting parallel to my seventh and eighth chapters, dealing with Oswald in the hands of public authority. It is one of the developments I had hoped would come from them but as you can see, it was independent. I shall be making a pitch on this angle soon. If you want this you may keep it. Otherwise, when next you write, please return it.

Thanks for everything.