

9/24/65 Tom Wicker has almost finished book, quite impressed. Still doesn't know what he can do to be helpful, says for himself he'd like to be able to check my sources but hasn't time. Asked if he could send it to Harrison Salisbury, who might be able to have tough-minded reporter or reporters do that. I agreed, asking that if the came to any that didn't follow, to let me know because of possible typographical errors. Still on confidential basis. When I offered to leave phones where I could be reached when I was in NY he said not to, that my manuscript was more persuasive than any person could be. I explained my continuing desire for speed, pointing out scheduled publication of Lane's book in England and error in those of his writings I had seen and of Fox's acknowledged use of journalistic sources. He agreed journalistic sources not likely to be credited in today's climate. I explained why I had gone to him - so a responsible paper with resources would know in case something happened to me (such as accident on turnpike) and in the hope through seeing syndication values the Times might be helpful in publication. He describes Salisbury as of conspiratorial frame of mind, who had used "not inconsiderable" resources of Times in effort to prove at time assassination, and had been convinced none existed. I told him despite Times public commitment, through Salisbury and Lewis book, I agreed. He said he doesn't believe in conspiratorial concept of history and I agreed, explaining I still thought Earl Warren great man, but saw him in different light, that I believe the people who did what they did on Commission thought they were serving national need. Pointed out their competence refuted accident in such cases as spectro, auto, etc., and asked if he would not have fired any cub who missed clear import Fales Oswald. Smiling, he agreed. Told him recent history, including Cady.