

Dear Wes,

4/30/77

Zacharias phoned me on Tuesday. He pretended he had not been supposed to put his offer in writing. His newest offer is not serious. Having cut the agreed advance in half he now cuts that by another third. He makes no mention of the other provisions of our agreement.

I have written him. Lil will retype that letter when she can. I'll have copies of both for you so you can see for yourself the need for a hefty advance, as I told you.

He sounded distraught when he phoned. Maybe he is learning about his newest blockbuster, the Fensterwald-Ewing bullshit, I know he has learned Bud is yellow. He cancelled a press conference he had scheduled for Tuesday because Lane tried to upstage him with one of his own that same morning. I will be at Lane's with a tape recorder. I expect to say nothing.

Tuesday afternoon Jim and I have an appointment with another lawyer, here in Frederick. I hope we may be able to get together soon after Tuesday.

I have continued reading and excerpting the FBI volumes, more than 50 now and Jim has three others awaiting me. I have compiled a writing file of them more than six inches thick.

After Walter phoned I did work on an outline. I'd like to go over it with both you and Jim.

The tentative title of the first chapter is Montgomery to Memphis. If you have a short chronology of the major events in King's life it could be quite helpful.

From there on I guess the question is what to omit.

The paper we spoke of could be of use soon. I want to start the writing as soon as I can, with or without Walter.

Hope your few days off were pleasant. Learned when I tried to phone you.

I don't know whether any of the enclosed are of interest. I made copies when I did them on the chance they might hold information you could use. I've forgotten what they are now.

Best Wishes,