

2222 20734

7/25/66

Dear all of you wonderful people,
Please do not let what immediately follows discourage you from ever calling when you can afford to, for just hearing friendly voices and kind encouragement mean much, more than I can say. Your call tonight leaves me wide awake, so I'm writing now the few things I didn't say. The letter to Lillian mentions the slight possibility of a foundation....After we hung up, I thought if you can do it, perhaps it might be good as I could also have the Oswald tape at whatever speed is normal in radio. I might get to play it on the air, and now, after the lapse of time and the Report, it could be a sensation....I hope I am not disappointed, but I believe that with the change in the climate represented, for example, by the CBS program, the Alan Burke TV show may stir up enough for a similar thing in the future....I have a TV show in Phila postponed from the 28th. I'm happy over the delay, for it will give the current stuff a time to work and sink in. Maybe even WNEW will want to do more. It is a Metromedia station, but the show is not aired on their Washington TV station. Also, there has been persistent talk of a radio series to tell the story of the book in 39 installments. - have been approached on this twice in the past week. BBC did a little newscast with me a week ago that was well received by BBC and in England. Of it the London Sunday Observer (7/17) said kind things, including: "Weisberg's argument about the unsatisfactory nature of the first autopsy was impressive. So was his insistence that Oswald was known to be a poor shot. Weisberg seemed sober enough and free from crankiness..." It is not at all beyond possibility that BBC will have further interest. The crew that was here would love to do a special. Their correspondent likes the format I've suggested, something not done on TV before, very much. So does a man in a nonpolicy position at CBS TV. So, I might use that tape in public, and with effect. I have yet to go into part 2 of the book on the air....As Bill feared, I hear World is backing off on Sauvage. I also hear that Regnery is coming to me about a hardback edition of WHITEWASH. On the new edition, it is important to sell all the older ones first because the nature of the book business is such that all copies are returnable. They call it "protected". I cannot conceive of being in the future able to repay the bookstores for any copies they return in any number, and that is what I'll face if there is demand for the indexes that leave the unindexed copies unsold. I hope to leave for Washington about 5 or 6 hrs from now and to return early so I can handle the mail I expect from the Burke show, judging by today's phone calls, and the phone calls, if they come, and to perhaps get back on the writing. If all goes well I'll get the Marine tape transcript out and will mail it tomorrow. Perhaps I'll have time to give you the references of similar, smaller things on her and what she said....Would you like to read what I haven't, what I did in answer to Knebel? I can mail that if you'd like and possibly some of you might have suggestions....Can you explain Poplin to me....My agent in England is finding what I've found here. He is now trying to get a similar edition done, but in 7x10 size, which will make it more legible. I wish I knew who I could get to distribute it over there. I'd go further in debt to get it done, for I think it would do well, as it is here. Bonpini in Milan has asked for an Italian option....BBC filmed over my shoulder and the documents were on the screens in England...While I conceived the sequel as THREE SHELLS, a pun on the Punko game, the sixth floor, etc., I'd like your opinion on WHITEWASH II: THE HANDS OF THE BRUSH. I will, if I can get it done anytime soon, see if there is a possibility of the two coming as a boxed pair for Xmas....There were no stipulations at CBS. The Mike Wallace thing, as we taped it ad lib, ran 38 minutes and it was to have been cut to 25. The reporter who interviewed me, George Herman, actually is a very nice and helpful fellow and on my side...None have

ever hinted what I should or should not say. I never met any of the Burke people before the show, to this day haven't gotten a letter from them, and the same is true of both Long John and WCAU and in Washington....I'm beginning to work out a manner of presentation I'd like your comment on, your critical comment, when you hear the tapes. It began on Long John and is apt only when there is opposition. There is no problem when there is no opposition, save the difficulty of curbing myself and keeping things short and punchy....Some time I'd like to know what happened in SF during and after the Joe Dolan show. That was something I hope Hal Verb understands we appreciate very much. He did it. Please tell Ray Marcus I've accepted his "deal" and will send him three, not two books as soon as the presses begin to run, perhaps tomorrow, perhaps Tuesday. But this is Monday!...I'm working on something for a breakthrough in England, a dirty trick played on me by a paper or its correspondent that, especially after this BBC interest and success, just might work. I hear rumors Paris Match did something but only rumors. Their man was here photographing for two hours and interviewed me for three, but he made clear four of each five stories he does is for the wastebasket....The part of the sequel that is drafted goes much farther on the autopsy. I'm working on the photographs, with a chapter roughed and another in the works three weeks ago, but so much has happened in those three weeks I do not even recall what I've done. I am confident it will be very good and nailed to a door-step....It may also make it easier for you to understand what I tonight said about the Members as distinguished from the staff, and I do not conceive the staff as only the lawyers....The full Altgens picture shows the actual edge of the SW corner of the building across the street from the TSBD and a tiny bit of blank south wall, the windows of its second floors in the back and of the third and the fire escape up to the level of the windows of the fourth, a figure, apparently of a Negro man with a white shirt, slumped as though drunk or hurt and hanging with his ~~left~~ right arm over the rail half way up the second flight. On the South, a man whose face is not visible standing on the edge of the grass and clapping in the foreground. Toward Honston about three feet on the grass from the curb a man with partly-rolled sleeves, visible in Zapruder, dressed in what seems almost like a white gown then hangs around and obliterates his shoes and with a white apron. No shadow that can be Willis's. On the north side, to the west of the man who proves that Brennan was not alone in a construction-type helmet near the light post, about as much area to the west of the post as from the post to the southwesternmost corner of the concrete structure. It is important to note here that "Lovely" is between the tree and this concrete as he is seen from Altgens lens, which makes it possible to line from him to the lense in placing Altgens. The middle of the picture is about the E SE corner of the TSBD bldg. where not hidden by both trees the second-floor windows can be seen. The foreground is but paving. Butain the building in the back, sticking out of the open window in the second floor onto the fire-escape is a dark something that could be a dusky arm and there are shadows, one strongly suggesting aman, that I cannot identify. This picture is much clearer and shows how much of the President's back was not sheltered by the back of the seat. His face is distorted and his left forefinger is extended as he grips at his neck...Before I try and go to sleep, I want to again thank you for phoning. I find I am looking forward to the possibility of an appearance at Berkaneey that Hal thought he could arrange in the hope it might mean we can all meet. I have a speaking engagement for the 20th of Spet, in Philadelphia but no others for the time of the reopening of school. I wish something like KQWB could be arranged for LA. The copies of the book and the letter I sent apparently haven't reached Lord Russell...For Maggie, my agent in England, who has been wonderful if unsuccessful, is Gordon Harbord, 53 St. Martin's Lane, London WC 2. He approached S Ovaroff in France but I do not know with what result. In Germany, it is Eve Borneman 6, Frankfurt am Main 1 EBOHAUS Max Bock Strasse 27. I'll try for a copy of the Wallace tape in DC today and see if I can interest any of the papers in the claue, especially if the WNEW show made any newspapers. Warmest thanks for your thoughtfulness. Though much less so, it is still lonely and friendliness and encouragement mean so much.