

8/21/66

Dear Bill,

Having heard nothing from either of you I am reluctant to write Lillian Castell because of her husband's health. I do hope he is coming out of it well. In the few odd moments before sleep and in the bathroom for more than a month I have been nibbling away at Moran's Churchill. I hope Mr. C. comes out of his stroke that well.

With a headache that discouraged writing and a quiet Sunday I went over Ray Marcus' stuff carefully today. It is really a fine and tedious piece of work. I continue with a question I cannot resolve about the Altgens-Lovelady positions. I do not think it is important for my approach, but it might be for others; I have written Ray.

Perhaps she does not believe him, but Lillian might find resolution in the Kelley first testimony of her 207-210 doubts. Kelley said the difference was due to the differences in cars and the elevation of the seat. Or was it Shneyfelt?

There are several things she said she'd send. If it is now no burden for her, I'd like very much to have them while I have a period in which I can write. These include what she described as an "excellent Ex10" black and white of Willis 5. Can she tell me its antecedents: Has she or have you given any thought to the differences in the two sets of Willis slides? Mine has the frame margin inside the slide card board and doesn't show the sign. If she has time, I'd appreciate it if she could lay a piece of tracing paper over the print and mark the alterations.

Have any of you noticed, and if you have, have you done anything with the obvious alteration of Mrs. Kennedy's neckline on this slide?

She promised me a ~~set~~ copy of the original plat. I'd like it. I have the West Secret Service one of 12/5, which shows no frame numbers.

In her lengthy statement accompanying the numbered sheets that she sent Ramparts, she quotes another researcher as saying the color slides given the government were not altered. I am confident this is true. But those on file in the archives have been altered, identically as the black and whites. To be certain, after viewing them projected, I had a lawyer who was with me and the projectionist check the actual slides. Did this researcher check them at the archives, or where.

Has any of you done anything with the alleged "Lovelady in the Altgens picture? I'm going to pick up on that where I left off some time ago, and I think I'll be able to get a pretty good answer. Have you examined this picture yet? Are good photographic facilities available to you that will not take this from me, for I want to use it in the book. I'd like enlargements to the degree where clarity isn't impeded of those things I earlier called to your attention on the fire escape-windows of that building whose name I now seem to recall as the Dal-Tex Bldg., one of the alleged Lovelady, with emphasis on the shirt and whether buttons are missing at the top end of a young man sitting down shielding his eyes from the sun, a little to the right in the picture. Mine has a "Lovelady" enlargement, but picking it up from the printed page reduces clarity and involves screen.

I suppose we'll be back to press for the third printing very soon. The wholesale orders have been quiet, but if the stores are selling WHITEWASH the way we did the past week (187 copies mailed from home), the 600 remaining of the second 5,000 will not last long. I've got to go to the printer's tomorrow to bring some of them home so we can have some to mail. I've delayed reprinting because of some publisher nibbles and I haven't been able to pay for the second printing yet. The money from the wholesalers has been slow coming in. But the only money we have spent from the gross of the book is on postage, and that for it alone and only for the past two weeks. Until then we advanced it.

Sincerely,