

11/13/66

Dear Bill,

In fairness to the Metromedia people, the effect of the entire show in the quiet of the home is entirely different than it was in the hubbub of the preview. My specific comments are still applicable, as the unedited tape would show. Most of what was edited is me, especially when I went after Cohen and nabbed him. Especially bad is the omission of what preceded and followed my calling him a liar. I also clobbered Lene when he pretended the alteration and suppression of pictures (which he hadn't caught and ignored when Lillian called it to his attention) was of neither consequence nor significance.

I took a chance with some of the stuff, hoping to use the program as an kind of introduction to WHITEWASH II. As you may have noted, some of the beginning of it is introduced and the doctrine of the book will not come as a complete surprise.

But I do wish the entire tape could have been shown. I also wish that in DC at least all the station breaks had not cut me off. They were loaded with commercials here. If Washington is any example, the subject has become commercially (and to sponsors) more than acceptable. This means a major step ahead. When this kind of stuff can be sold it can more readily be done.

A further measure of the time: after stalling for four months the Ted White organization, which does radio programs, has finally made me a firm offer to do WHITEWASH, in writing. I mentioned this before. I've tentatively accepted, subject to clarification of the contract, its reading by a lawyer and my schedule which shall now have to orient around the new book.

That is now typed for offset. It is 246 pages not counting index and appendix. The index will not control unless I go ahead before Lil can finish it with the minimum appendix for the first printing and include the index and additional appendix in additional printings. But I have to get a legal reading and see or write Castor first and there are so many things to do I cannot now schedule these two, especially because I have no dough of my own with which to pay a lawyer and do not know a specialist. A NY publisher with excellent distribution is flying down to see me Tuesday knowing I intend to go ahead with a private printing but knowing I am doing this not by preference and want a regular, hardback appearance.

Hal Verb phoned Friday night to ask if I can make it to SF the 16th. Unless the U of Wisc picks a date that makes this possible I cannot. They are having me for more than a speech and are paying me. They will have a seminar also. I do not know the specific arrangements. He and other in SF have rented a hall for that night because they can get Keating for it. I do not know how this will work out. I presume what radio and TV things they have lined up would still be okay. Frankly, they mean more than a speech to 400 people, reach a much larger audience of less persuaded people. Unless I hear otherwise from you, I will still hold the same dates free and figure on coming out then. I hope the new book can be set by then so I can have a set of proofs and it can be in manufacture. Hal and Paul Hoch seem to have been working on the assistant counsel with some effect. That's the right field. Please return the copy of the letter to UPI when you and Maggie have read it. I could make only one run and haven't copies to keep. Commentary has answered with an offer to print that letter or another of 1000 words. I have accepted either offer and made a brash but quite serious counterproposal: that I help them recapture their integrity with a long article, for which they pay me as they did Bickel, which I promise to tear him and them up and attack the entire intellectual community for its abdications! The first of the two pieces of the "new additions" to the archive has passed initial inspection at the New York Times and has been passed on to the magazine. This means nothing, but I'd like to think it is encouraging.

Best,