

11/18/66

Dear Bill and Maggie and PLEASE nobody else,

I have good news that I do not want to spread. The "Majority Report" has been set. It will be taped the 18th in New York. The "Minority" show has been sold to 13 non-Metromedia stations already! I'm on the "Majority" show! The reason I say I do not want you to mention it is thus: I had a lot to ignore, a lot to keep silent about, too much liability on the last show, too much to worry about and to inhibit myself about. I do not want this liability again, do not want anyone stealing my lines and my materials, slicing my preparations when I am not in New York to look out for myself, and above all, no one to have to protect or defend except myself. If the station invites others, fine, that is their business. But I do not want to be responsible for letting others find out so they can make demands. Lane has now sold enough books. He is independently well off, with more coming. It is not just a question of my wanting to get some money to get out of debt and live on. I want the level to be the level you saw when I was on camera. I do not want to have to answer for Lane's inaccuracies or cheap stunts, and do not want time wasted by others on such things that can be put to use getting information out. They can murder Lane. I can. It may well be that WNEW will feel bound to invite him. That is their affair. They may also invite others. If you have sat through some of the fairy-needles stuff I have, seen wonderful opportunities wasted, ~~xxxxx~~ you'd understand this aspect.

By now you know what I have. All I have to do is hold up, and I think I can.

What a thing it will be if I can do it on their show, and to them! Face to face! Frankly, I am not troubled about a gangup. You heard the Burke tape. If I am ganged up on, I can handle myself and I'll come through another white knight.

I was on the Jerry Williams show by phone again last night, for an hour. The first 5 callers were women who viewed the WNEW show, ~~xxx~~ shown in Chicago, and they were high in their praise of me personally. So the editing did not hurt as much as I feared. I used the "new evidence" stuff and it went over well. It had the phones ringing for two days in Philadelphia. I still hope that before I come out there we can do some radio warmups. UPI newsfilm was here today to film me for Italian TV. The made some extra footage in case UPI is interested and I made an extra show for Orlando, the Italian correspondent (a wonderful guy), also on this "new evidence".

I have a letter today from Sylvia Weinstein, chairman of the Militant Forum, 1733 Weller St., SF 752-1790. They are my hosts, it seems, and meetings. They apparently have a schedule for the 14th through the night of the 16th. Hal Verb she says will write with particulars ~~and~~ of speaking and other arrangements. I'll keep you posted so you can dovetail. As of now, I can fly to LA from SF the night of the 16th if necessary. That is, if you want an early start the next day....How much longer would it take me on the way back to go by way of Dallas, if just to visit with Penn and LA?

I spent a day with the President of Parallax this week. They are interested in Penn's book, asked my recommendation (they haven't read it. I told them about it), and I said I think they should do it. They have good distribution, although they are a small house. I also offered to write an introduction, if Penn wants and if he makes a deal with them. I have written him encouraging him to make the deal if he has no other arrangement now probable. They like my new book, agree I should not hold it, and may be making me a multiple offer, beginning with distribution of the edition I do.

Best,

By the way, Please rush my bibliography back to me. I will want to be going over it when I can (and I hope I can) before the new TV show in NYC.