

I was aware that I was being as honest as I could be, as open and as informative, as I was also aware that Shales does not know me and (as it turned out) had to have heard much not nice. This inevitably raises questions and can make problems. But I'm not about to start resorting to guile now. There isn't much the media can do to hurt me now and there is always the chance that this guy might listen. I know F. Lee Bailey owns the rag and what he thinks of the subject. However, I had serious purposes in drafting that NYU speech, they are more relevant today, and while I doubt the occasion will arise, I'll prove everything I said from my files. He was interested in Lane. In particular.

Glad he called when he did and not tomorrow. I was at the end of reorganizing what is in PM a subchapter when the phone rang. Maybe I forgot some details of what I'd intended adding but no difference.

The damned phone never stopped today. All day, different things.

Odd thing: if one of Lil's clients hadn't been here about 6 I'd have dozed off in the chair while reading those good clips that came today. He was waiting for his wife, who was caught in a nearby shopping center by a strong rainstorm. But after supper I came to and was wide awake. It is not a good thing but I'm finding that the longer I'm up the less tired I am. It is almost 19 hours today and I was more tired when I got out of bed. Lil has the best solution: try to take a nap.

Getting editing done when there are may 10 calls some-several-lasting an hour- it a real problem. This is why the early a.m. is important. I have few options, but little by little I am catching up so Lil can retype and I'll try to nap during the day. I find 10 minutes then quite helpful, or have in the past.

Back to Shales: everyone is going for a crappy approach, not on the subject but on the "critics" about whom they know and can know nothing except what others have written. I asked Shales if he had any way of knowing who had done real work, which books were original and/or responsible, how what information came out, and I think he began to see the problem Stone and Kaiser wouldn't. He asked me the stock question, are the others all CIA agents. I said the CIA wasn't crazy enough to saddle itself with needless liabilities or to waste money when it had all this free help. He laughed. He laughed at my version of the Whaley death, did he think the CIA has Namikaze 82-year-old to drive the wrong way on divided highways to kill those who had said all they could? But they are all going for this the critics line. Best, HW 8/11/75