

ML

20734

July 28, 1966

Dear Judge Palmer,

Yours is a particularly kind letter and I want immediately to express our appreciation for it.

May I add to your ephorism on cowardice, "to the point where it overcomes even avarice." For its kind, WHITEWASH is already a best-seller. I do not believe even "How to Avoid Probate" among private editions did as well in as short a time. The first 5,000 copies are sold, and of the 5,000 just printed, 50% are sold and the binding is unfinished on the remainder.

As a commentary on our time, may I tell you this was in spite of the studied and planned censorship by the papers. When they could not ignore it, they came as close as they could, even attributing what belong to it to its as yet only competitor, thus showing a taste not in keeping with our historic appetite, for day-before-yesterday's unrefrigerated milk toast in preference to meat!

Radio and TV have done it, and you Loe Dolan of KEB led the rest with a very fine contribution to the public availability of knowledge that should be public and wasn't. They interviewed me by phone for two hours. I don't think anything quite like that had been done before. I at least am in his debt and that of the station's owners. There has been considerable radio attention here, and some TV. There was an audience-participation TV program in New York last weekend. Someone (I do not think the station) organized a clique of lawyers against me. They were miserable, really terrible, hence my best friends. New York is still jumping! I can feel the tremors 250 miles away. You should see the mail - and orders. Some lawyers, outraged at this unseemly display, are now considering establishing a foundation to carry on my work. I am also, when I can, and will have a sequel that, especially because you are a judge, I think you will find at least as interesting. My research is done and 20% is drafted. I'm thinking of calling it WHITE WASH II: THE HANDS ON THE BRUSH.

Again I want to thank you for your courtesy and thoughtfulness in taking the time from a busy day to write such encouragement. While things are not as lonely as they were, every kind word makes us feel that much better.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg

WILLIAM J. PALMER

AREA CODE 415
835-5511

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR
COURT OF CALIFORNIA
FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY
RETIRED

LAKE PARK
1850 ALICE STREET
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA
94612

July 25, 1966

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Hyattstown, Maryland- 20784

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

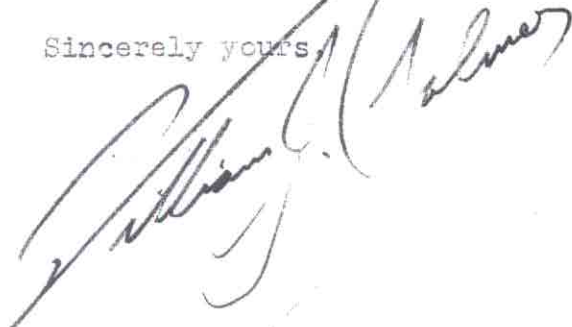
Appreciating the tremendous amount of labor, analytical thinking and courage required in the production of your book WHITEWASH--THE REPORT ON THE WARREN REPORT, and having just completed reading the book, I write to commend you, as I do with profound sincerity.

Your work confirms what has been my own intuition, but, of course, one cannot prove anything to another by intuition. However, that intuition often leads us to the proof, and I purchased your book without any debate with myself when I saw it on the counter of Capwell's book department here in Oakland.

I have done a great deal of published writing for my profession, and I know what it is to write something that no one dares publish. Indeed a manuscript I now hold appears to be in that category. Cowardice, I am inclined to believe, is the most dangerous frailty of our time.

With the kindest wishes for you and your wife, to whom you beautifully dedicate your book, I am

Sincerely yours,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "William J. Palmer". The signature is written over the typed name and extends across the bottom right portion of the page.