

11/26/75

Senator Richard Schweiker
Room 347 Senate Office Bldg.
Wash., D.C. 20510

Dear Dick,

It is not my purpose to argue with you or to try to persuade you to take a course other than the one you consider best. Also, I take no initiatives in learning what your committee and CBS have been doing, although in some cases I have fairly full first-person accounts. My interest remains in having this agony ended but honestly, without further covering up, whitewashing or unfair allocation of responsibility.

You will remember that I strongly encouraged the need for a definitive destruction of the basic conclusions of the Report itself, the making of a case that with attention could not be ignored not of theorizing but of the most basic of fact, and that this be done prior to the airing of the first of their specials.

To this end I offered you within the time needs as I saw them all the content of my new work. Plus other unpublished work. (You may not be aware of it but I also took a private room in the hospital so I could have private conversations, should they be wanted, with your and another committee.) I spent this money I do not have only to be able to be more helpful, if that were wanted.)

Then I raised the question of something like a press conference, a not unusual arrangement from my own Hill past.

Now there is the first of the CBS vidowhitewashes. You can decide whether or not it can have any influence on your work and its possibilities. You can also have a measure of my judgement.

The prepublication readings I got from the press were accurately interpreted. No single paper, no wire service, none of those who had advance copies of the book either carried any mention of the definitive content and not one argued over the content with me. The substitution I arranged - and I'm quite serious in my willingness to get oath-to-oath with all in the book and others - was fairly handled by the wire services. Also almost totally suppressed in almost all major cities. If there has been a word printed in Washington, New York, Chicago, San Francisco or Los Angeles I have not heard of it.

For whatever it is worth, the combination of this challenge and our confrontation of the 19th did compel a radical change of position from Belin, who by the time of his statement must also have completed reading Post Kortem. Specter agreed to one the day he announced. I asked the reporter who asked him to arrange any law school in Phila. as the forum. No word since.

While the trip to Vanderbilt put me back somewhat, I seem to be coming along well enough for three hours of this Monday night. When and as I can I'll keep after Specter. I am without doubt that if I can get head-to-head with him, something he's ducked many times, it will help his primary opponent as much as it will help establish truth. And in the end, I think, your work.

Best regards,

Harold Weisberg