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11/8/66

Dear Mr. Frice,

Your gift of the NCR paper has been helpful. It has speeded up the typing and, where we have it, the third copy will enable me to have something else that is necessary go on while we are reading and, I hope, indexing, the new book. Some of the pages were untreated, and I shall have to Xerox two copies of each. Of the first part, where we have a carbon, I shall have to Xerox only one.

This book is longer and WHITEWASH. All the pages of the draft are not numbered serially, for I made additions that were lettered. But to give you a rough idea, the numbered pages of the rough are 440. My wife is retyping 313. In the single-spaced version, this come to 174. I calculate from this that there will be 240 numbered pages of text alone. The Preface, which I have done, is very short two pages. I do not expect to get an introduction that will have meaning and I shall write none myself. My approaches to the intellectual and legal communities have been fruitless and frustrating and I will waste no more time with these cowardly people. I shall prepare the minimum appendix, almost entirely of photographs (largely done). When the index is completed I'll calculate to the closest signature and finish the appendix. I hope this will enable us to not exceed 275 pages, which will be nine 32-page signatures. I have made the arrangements for the offset negatives and the printing. My artist is clogged up with work but I think he will be able to do this inxx addition. He is that kind of a man, one of the many fine people I have met through WHITEWASH.

The publisher who asked for the first refusal and insisted upon the last has been given until this coming Saturday, the 12th., to give me his final (which will also be his first) offer. I do not anticipate an acceptable one.

We have a number of problems. For the moment I shall ignore the literary one. I have had no outside editing, and no man on such a topic can adequately edit his own work. I am having two people who I trust and who know the field read it. As of Wednesday, the first was half finished and excited. What I now need is a legal reading. The lawyer, expert in the field, upon whom I have depended, is not available. He has not answered my letter and I presume this is because I present him a conflict because of his publishing connections.

I presume that with such a subject there is an infinite possibility of nuisance suits. Because of the national interest I believe involved I shall pay no attention to these. What I want to be certain of is that I have not by accident hurt anyone, not been unfair, and not by accident really committed libel. As you know, on my last couple of trips to New York neither you nor your lawyer have been available.

Assuming he is willing and feels he knows this field well enough (by which I mean libel, not the subject matter), there still remain other problems he may face, one of which is time and the other personal relationships. I am not kind to his calling, but not by intent. I intend no denunciations of lawyers per se (not do I

feel this way). But a number of identified lawyers are part of the story as they were part of the Commission staff. There are two to whom I devote considerable space, Arlen Specter and Wesley Liebeler. I call Specter a liar. I prove Liebeler did such a bad job it cannot be accidental. I prove (despite his effective stool-pigeonry with Epstein) that without Liebeler there could have been no whitewash. The records of both are shocking. As I recall it, I also mention Redlich (who has many friends and connections in New York, including the only lawyer in your city I know well enough to ask to read this) and Belin.

Further, at least for the present we cannot pay him. While the sale of WHITEWASH has been spectacular, the gross income to date has been enough to pay for but the first two printings, and we have taken from it only enough to pay for a new typewriter. During the past several weeks we have been allowing income to accumulate on the special account we have for this purpose and it is possible that as soon as we can take the time to go over the books we can make an appreciable payment on the third printing. There have been four. The "in print" figure is 22,800. I have been refusing to use this money for any other purpose. For example, I refused an opportunity to be on the Barry Gray show with Congressman Upferman because they would not pay my plane fare and the day of the program my previous and important medical commitments were such I could not get there any other way. Perhaps this was an error in judgement, but I regard the gross income from the book as other people's money and do not spend it.

Let me, in this early-morning digression from the continuing work I am doing, also tell you something about the book. It not only shows how such respected men could sign their names to such a fraudulent document as the Report, it shows how they were put in the position where, without stronger determination on their part to be skeptical, they had little choice. It shows that they were engineered into this position and who engineered. It is not written as a defense of the members of the Commission but it amounts to that. This is consistent with my belief, and my belief is not emotional. It is a very specific book. It shows just exactly how who did what to apply the whitewash, it shows how the whole thing was not accidental, all from nothing but official sources. There are but two exceptions. One part of the book addresses several aspects of the whitewashing. This, inevitably, involves the press. Here I use two examples for multiple purposes. I use the Lock-Knebel thing to show what Lock did and the Rowland part of it as an example of what the staff did to destroy before the Commission those witnesses whose stories were inconsistent with the preconceptions. Rowland was a credible witness and should have been an important one. Because there was no other source (and he had declined perhaps a half-dozen invitations to confront me on radio and TV) I used Specter's statements to the press, especially his lengthy constatement of lies to US News, against both. Here is where I called him a liar and I proved it. I believe this is necessary to public comprehension of the entire case. I did not do it for vindictiveness, for I am, really, sorry for Specter. He lied consistently. I prove without so saying in WHITEWASH that one of his lies to the members had the effect, perhaps, of swinging them over to his theory that is, as he must have known, entirely unproved. His falsehood is not inadvertent

As I say, the whitewash was on the operating level. The Commission members should have known better. Whether they did or not no one else can say. I do not in this book try and get inside another's mind. I restrict myself to the facts and facts speak for itself. This amounts to a very strong criticism of the men who did the whitewashing. I really say and prove who did the whitewashing. I regard this as an important thing that must be articulated in the national interest. Others may not feel this way, including your and other lawyers, perhaps you. J. Edgar Hoover will not like this book at all.

So now you know and your lawyer can know whether you can associate yourselves with it to the extent I ask. I think speed is an urgent necessity, again in the national interest. We pursuing my own narrow interest I'd never consider a private

printing. I believe the Manchester book, whose current publication date is March 1 and which will in excerpt be available in Look about the first of the year, is the unofficial whitewash and will be an additional national disgrace. All of my work has been available to members of the Kennedy family (and I have sent WHITEWASH to and written to four) and the publisher, with whom I had my first communication a year ago. I have done what I could to avoid this evil that will now ensue. They all knew in advance of the possibility. I cannot understand why Bobby is risking his political future for this. I last wrote him, before the recent action.

Further, I believe that before the Manchester book is out and has the chance to further poison the public mind, which it will do, whether or not anyone so intends, it is essential that this book, which will have no such facilities as his, be available, especially to those who will review and report his. I need not tell you the content I have for these people and my sense of outrage at their intellectual and commercial corruption. But I will send copies of this new book, if necessary at my own expense, to these same literary and intellectual whores who ignored the first or went out of their ways to hurt it and me. In this connection, I have challenged all of those recent "reviewers" and their editors to debate under any conditions they chose and in any manner of their selection. To a man they have been silent. I am especially disturbed at the dishonesty of Norman Cousins, who had a copy of WHITEWASH not later than the second week of ~~JUNE~~ ^{MAY}. I sent it special delivery. Judge Egan is a disgrace to his profession and the kind of friend Earl Warren is not likely to survive. Truth is the only defense, archaic as this may seem.

Vast fortunes are involved in the Manchester book. But the national tragedy and scandal it will be can still be avoided and there is a mechanism for what this will do to the reputation of the late President to be prevented. It will be obvious once this book is out. How Bobby Kennedy could in advance associate himself with any man's writing about his brother's murder is beyond my understand because I believe he is a very intelligent man. The hazard to him was inescapable from the beginning. This, however, is not really my concern.

Before I stop for breakfast and further work, there is one other thing I want you to know. The action this week is but a can of wriggling worms. This is what I call it in a 4,000-word article I have roughed out. I have carefully studied the list of what crossed the street, from the west to the east side of Penna. Ave. It is in the Federal Register, #31, No. 212, 11/1/66, if you want it for your file. It is an awful collection of trash, junk, trivia and nonsense. It is the mechanism for further suppressions, as I specify in this article. I say exactly what is suppressed by the move. I tell you this is not all. I will in the ~~future~~ near future have more to say if I can get it published. The move with the pictures is of the same character. I anticipated this some time ago and asked Joel Steinberg to make a legal study of who really owns the pictures. I hope he had had time and has not lost his interest. When the pressure got too great on Bobby this method was employed of guaranteeing the pictures would be permanently suppressed. My next article will be on the pictures. I do not intend a further one on the transfer of the "evidence" to the Archive until after WHITEWASH II is out. These pictures, as I also anticipated in WHITEWASH II, are but a diversion. They can do nothing except indicate one less lie was told. They now cannot prove this. They do not and cannot address themselves to the central story of the assassination. The Commission rendered this impossible. Unless I change my plans, I shall also submit this article to the NYTimes magazine. I will probably send it to Harrison Salisbury first, knowing the risk, knowing his commitment to the error of his and the Times's past. I have spoken to him, been in correspondence with him, and had the people in NY say they'd Xerox the rough draft done so, he'd have had a copy by now. He read WHITEWASH in me and did nothing. The Times Washington office may Xerox a copy for itself. I have also been in touch with Fred Graham, another risk.

One other thing. The Metromedia editing of the tape of the coming TV show is at my expense. I do not and cannot say why. It is designed for the protection of Jacob

When hence what he stands for. I utterly destroyed this man and his lies. As it will be aired, and I saw it Friday night, it makes me a quarrelsome man and cuts out most of my contribution. It has the further effect, if not the intent, of making this into a Lane show. When I consider the connections of Holt I wonder. Their executive vice president was at the taping. I am sadly disappointed in two men who I like and trust, Mel Baily and Paul Noble, but I recognize there may have been nothing they can or could do. I have learned to accept, if not to like these things. The program will carry much information, most of it good, to many people. As I drove home from the preview, where I was also abused, I thought it over and decided that I would still do what I could to promote it. I then got on the radio by phone and Jack McKinney, who I regard as the most wonderful human being I have met in any of the media through my work, allowed me to give it a considerable plug. His program reaches some 30 states.

What happened at the preview, which was my idea and was to give me my first opportunity for a press conference, is that without telling me in advance Sauvage was run in on it. Now I had spent considerable time and money on this and for it, among other things, has given the station books of a retail value of well over \$500.00. When I got to the studio, and not a second earlier, I was told there was a "surprise" for me. It certainly was. I was silent about it, but it hurt me. It particularly hurt me because Sauvage had refused the desire of a station for me to appear on a program with him. What he did not know is that I was instrumental in getting him on that program and could have appeared with him without his having a thing to say about it. I simply refused to unless he said he'd agree.

To survive these things and my wife has breakfast. Please let me know as soon as you can whether, in view of the foregoing, your lawyer is willing and able to give this a very fast reading. The only thing I ask is confidence about all of this. As an alternative, does he know any Washington lawyer who might be willing. This would reduce the Xeroxing costs, for I could take him parts as he needed them.

I did not intend to place an additional burden upon you.

Sincerely,