

Dear Earl,

10/22/96

Your caring, your interest and willingness and now your excellent effort all mean very much to us. Your call yesterday excited me so much I had trouble sleeping! For the first time in many years! I actually took two 5mg valiums before I got three hours of uninterrupted sleep. I can't remember ever taking that much since it was prescribed ^{about 40 years ago!} Usually, when infrequently I take any of it, 2 1/2 mg is all.

I know you are away for three days. This is to be waiting you when you return. I do not recall whether I gave you the long article Senator Russell Dissents but if I did not it is enclosed. I'll come to the reason. I wrote it late in 1992 or early in 1993 in the futile hope that Carroll & Gaf might use it to promote NEVER AGAIN! that instead they sat on for three years. It is longer than most articles for cutting and to make a more complete record for history. There are also several shorter enclosures. These are because I did think much about your question, which book should be published first, assuming that the agency takes and represents us and finds a publisher who will make an effort. I believe strongly for several reasons that the first book (re)published should be Whitewash, the first of them all.

It is the basic book on the evidence. It comes entirely from the official evidence and it has no theories in it. Besides which it has withstood time's

testing. In the 30 years since it appeared not a single one of the many of whom it is critical phoned or wrote any complaint about unfairness or inaccuracy in it.

There is none. It stacks, and is necessary for understanding the crime, the "investigation" and any other book, in the White House!

But "new information" should be added to the original book, which is really a public relations man's dream, as separately I'll get to. The new information is that two members of the Commission refused to agree with its most basic conclusion, that single-bullet myth of Specter's, and were conned into agreeing to what was presented to them as a compromise and is merely a rephrasing of the single-bullet theory with some meaningless words added to deceive Russell and Senator John Sherman Cooper. (I have an oral history Cooper made for the Russell archive at the University of Georgia, at Athens, in the basement. When someone can get it I'll bring it up and copy the pertinent part. I also have letters from both Russell and Cooper saying they never changed their minds on that.)

Aside from the short mention I made of some of this in Whitewash IV more than 20 years ago all of this is new and should be exciting and with any media attention would make a first-rate scandal. The documents have never been used. I did not have them then.

It turns out that it was not only Russell and Cooper who did not believe the single-bullet theory. Lyndon Johnson also did not!!!! This came out in what was barely mentioned with the significance not mentioned when the transcript of the Johnson-Russell phone conversation of 9/18/64 was disclosed. That was the date of the Commission executive session Russell forced from which Rankin and Warren were careful to exclude the court reporter so there would be no transcript. ^{In the archives} I never did find the ribbon copies of what Russell spoke at that session but I enclose his file carbon copies from his archive. If the court-reporting records are upstrais I'll enclose copies of them to reflect that no court reporter was there. Not the mention to the practice in the letter to Russell by his assistant ^{Mr.} Campbell to whom Russell gave the task of reading my then four books. Another executive session transcript includes the Commission agreement that it would make and preserve all session transcripts for the record for history.

The very first book that remains the basic book and the only one available with the basic evidence with this hot stuff about even the President not agreeing with his Commission's conclusions should make an exciting book that will seal and attract attention, if promoted. *A real natural scandal!*

I did copy and enclose enough of the records to show that there was no court reporter 9/18, the last having been 9/15, that when it was hairy the record was intended to be destroyed but they overlooked the stenotypist's tape and that all carbon paper and the like-of what was to be published- was actually destroyed at the White House by the Secret Service. That memo is by Rankin's secretary. Had there been a trial it would all have been public. And it was classified illegally. *ts high*

TOP SECRET

Of the many little twists that can lend themselves to attractive promotion if there is a publisher with that interest is the fact that it was the FBI that made "hitewash" a success! Not intending that at all. They were part of an effort to ruin me and the book and I was able to turn that around - on TV. That made the book in New York. I had to reprint it that week. I've the FBI's records on its part.

I also have an FBI record never used in which LBJ told it there had been a conspiracy and that the CIA was part of it.

I've taken a nap but I've run a bit dry. I'll resume but will get this in the mail. I've arrange for someone to get the records from the basement in a day or so. I'll also arrange to get that LBJ phone transcript on his not believing the single-bullet theory.

If you did not understand me on the phone, Carroll & Graf still have Selections from Whitewash, the four of that series and Post Mortem, on sale. So that cannot be done again now. However, if Whitewash is done and succeeds, there will be, I think,

a market for Post Mortem with all it says and documents and for Waketh, which might be considered after Whitewash.

But bear in mind all this requires the agency not being afraid of retaliation of any kind and then a publisher with that feeling, attitude.

I enclose one page only, not to make it complicated with the irrelevant, on which Cartha DeLoach, then No. 3 in the FBI, reported what LBJ told his staff about the conspiracy to kill JFK. The vertical lines in the margins are by Hoover. The date on the memo is 4/4/67 and the file is 62-109060-5075.

The potential of all of this, if it gets attention, is enormous. Big IF. But let us hope!!!

Thanks very, very much and more later,

Hamp