

October 4, 1966

Miss Marylois P. Vega
TIME Magazine
TIME & LIFE Bldg.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Vega,

It is kinder for me to believe, despite your contrary assurances, that you did not "read WHITEWASH carefully and understood it well". The alternative is very uncomplimentary, for nowhere did I say that "the Commission is guilty of misrepresentation and perjury."

From both the story and your letter it is clear you did not understand the introduction, which clearly distinguishes between the members of the Commission and its staff and which defines the staff as nothing else does. The truth is that although WHITEWASH is the strongest and most complete book on the subject, it is the one that does not assault the integrity of the members of the Commission. The subtlety of these personal attacks in other works has, seemingly, escaped your care and understanding, but in this you are not alone.

At some point, perhaps naively, I hope that the important elements of the press will honestly face their faults of the past and regard this subject with sincerity and honesty, for it addresses itself to the very viability of our society. This is filth that must be cleansed, publicly, forthrightly and in a manner that enables the recapture of the national honor.

Before the hurt can be healed, it is first necessary to understand how such eminent men of such justly high reputation could have placed their names on such a wrong document. My work alone makes this visible. I hope the time will come soon when you start casting votes, beginning with your own eyes.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg