

Ms. Carla Van Dyne
4323 Old Salem Road
Englewood, OH 45322

5/3/95

Dear Ms. Van Dyne,

I've not the time for a full reponse. In addition to all else I've started a book, Mailer's Tales. I'll appreciate anything about him or the book in the papers and magazines you see.

I've never been a McNamara fan but I do believe those strange people with LBJ and Nixon at the top really did believe the military, which said we could win if...

What may now be most embarrassing to McNamara is that for too long he believed it, too.

They also had a crazy notion that if "we" lost there the reds would take the world over. Well, we did lose.

What would tarnish JFK's reputation will vary with the mind that considers it.

I do not know which of the stories are true but I was briefly the house guest of a fine woman who was JFK's friend before he ran for President. So I know there is some truth to it.


But that is no way to evaluate his Presidency.

And he was, as you say, a good man.

Never again] is getting into the stores now. I am not the publisher, do not have any, will not have any to sell.

Halton in Westerville had it day before yesterday, I was told by phone. Near Columbus.

Thanks and best wishes,



Harold Weisberg

April 29 1995

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

Thank you for signing Whiteash IV.
What you wrote is true, I do care.

The Oklahoma bombing has shaken me so severely. I know that is the reaction terrorists want, but its so hard not to be fearful. I feel exactly like you do, in that acts like that represent the horrible changes that has taken place in the soul of America since President Kennedy was murdered, and since the Vietnam War, which would ^{have} never occurred if the President had lived.

Robert Kennedy would have stopped that war too, and I'm sure that's why they murdered him too. That war was the start of all the hatred and mistrust of the government. My personal feelings are that our government, under L.B.J. and Nixon, never had any intention of "winning" that war. It was just a money making machine that fed off the blood of 58,000 American dead.

I was surprised to learn that Mrs. Kennedys tapes are not government owned. I just figured they tried to control them too.

(2)

I'm under the impression that those tapes are to be released to the public 50 years after the death of her last child. I can't imagine Jacqueline put anything on them that would tarnish the President's image. If so, I'm glad it'll be long dead when they are released. I've never been interested in the President's extra-marital activities anyway. My interest in him has always been elsewhere. I choose not to believe those stories. Even if that's wrong, it's my right. My favorite image of him is at Berlin. To me, that is the pinnacle of his power. President Kennedy standing above all those thousands of people, giving that wonderful speech; The scene is almost surreal. I love it, and him. He'll always be, in my mind anyway, the untarnished King of Camelot, and Jacqueline his gorgeous queen. I may sound really ignorant to you, but please forgive me. I know John Kennedy wasn't perfect, no man is. But I will never believe he was the kind of man some gossips would have us believe he was. He was a good man, and our country has suffered without him.

(3)

One of my fondest wishes is to go to the Kennedy Library someday. Only problem would be, once I got there, I probably wouldn't ever want to leave!

"them" meaning your books

I'm into the epilogue of "Post-Mortem" now. I've really enjoyed it, and learned new things. I also really enjoy your writing style! I like when there are newspaper articles printed in them. I have several newspapers (all originals) from November 22/23 1943. Most of them report a shot from the front. I find it amazing how stories change?! ←

My Kennedy memorabilia has about taken over my entire room. Last month my grandfather had to put up shelves for all my books. Your books are proudly on display there. I also have the August 10, 1971 "Look" of which you wrote about in "Post-Mortem."

I'm sorry "Newspaper" has been delayed. I hope it's ready soon. Please let me know. I already have money put aside for it! I hope you will sign it also for me. These signed books

(4)

from you mean a lot to me,
Thank you for your letter, and thank you
very much again for signing Whitesash III.

Give Mrs. Weisberg my Best.

Sincerely yours,
Carla Van Dyne

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4/95

I think its an outrage that all these years later R. McNamara decides he was wrong. Too Bad he didn't realize that then!

The Vets are right, all the proceeds should go to them!