

1/9/67

Dear Hal,

The enclosed letter to Morgan and Young is self-explanatory. I presume the Capitol flacks have done their work in Frisco, too. I can tear this cheap finkery up readily and did it when confronted with what was designed as a boobytrap just before midnight Friday, when tired, which was good, for I had less restraint and was so clearly angry. I'd gotten up early, flown out to Chicago to be on WBBM-TV with Elmer Gertz and Albert Jenner (who suddenly developed a delayed Xmas party and could not make it), and was not happy to begin with because nothing like this had been scheduled for that call-in show. The mc had been telling his audience all about the distress I'd be in, how wrong Lane and I and the others are, etc. When I cut loose, and I cut and slashed, he had not a single nasty thing to say. He laid off. I challenged him to have me back, letting me stop the record at every lie, distortion, half-truth, slander, etc. He asked how can you and I said try me! I think before the show was over he knew I could and would. And I laid it on Liebeler (whose significance in all of this grows in my mind daily as I find new things). When they implied they'd phone him, my spontaneous, on the air reply was to tell them how!

My tough-minded artist, who has followed my appearances in the east closely, said this was like Michael Angelo telling off a pop artist in the Cistine Chapel, that it was not merely a good performance but "virtuosity", etc. If he said its the best I've done, I'm satisfied that at least in Washington I have done what can be done to that awful record. I did it in hot, not cold anger, did it with passion and without hemming and hawing, and I covered the board.

I have written Morgan not Dolan simply because I had written Mason in a way that implied my endorsement of the record, which I had expected to be, as represented, an honest piece of work. If Morgan doesn't want to and Dolan does, I'd love to. But I do not think we should attract attention to the record in your area unless Capitol does so in advance. For the moment I'll just stick to the record and the evidence, esp. on Liebeler and his lies. But when the time comes, I've a few things special for Capitol.

I've also written the producer of the record demanding the return of every copy of every form of the interview with me on the ground it was given them in confidence and they have twice breached that confidence. I've also demanded that if they have a shred of integrity left they withdraw the record, of which there is no chance. But after I hear from them I may release the exchange. If I do not hear I may go further.

Kurriedly, I think you may be interested in 26H689. May have lunch with Gastorr any day beginning Tuesday, which is tomorrow. Seems farthur away before daylight. Nazer has agreed to a TV confrontation with me and modest man that he is he thinks that with him as their champion Liebeler and Specter will show up. The TV station is ranging in Lane again, which I think is wrong and not helpful, for I cannot defend him while he is stealing from me, and he will in no sense help me. Word on the Dell WHITEWASH is very good. They want II and have said that if they get the Manchester book, for which they've bid \$1,000,000, they'll make more koney on WW! Now they are beginning to advertise it, I having made it a very good seller for them, without a cent to defray expenses from them. Where is that Barb? I may want to use some of that stuff. That is the net result of my appearances, if you can tell. Steve Burton is reactivating the LA Citizens' Committee and I've put him in touch with one east-coast university where a group may be started. I plan to offer the same Capitol challenge to two clear-channel stations by phone this p.m. when I get back from DC. I expect to pick up some copies at the archives, including a print of 749 from the negative. Ray is getting two. Keep me posted on any developments, discoveries, suggestions for III, on which orders come in at a gratifying rate. Had 25 in a single day last week! Sales on II are about 4,000.

Sincerely,