

12/14/71
8370-H
CG-668

Mr. William Ray, Chief
Complaints and Compliance Division
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Ray,

After hearing from you pursuant to my correspondence with Commissioner Nicholas Johnson, I wrote CBS at New York and at Washington. I sent you copies of the correspondence. I asked of CBS time to present the opposite side of the questions raised by Jerry Griffin and Percy Foreman relating to the subject of political assassinations, the workings of our system of justice, the rights of the unpopular and indigent defendant and whether or not justice is available to him and all the ramifications that are involved. I think these are important national questions.

While I was away on a long trip I received the enclosed letter from Mr. Leonard Ackerman, CBS attorney, dated November 17. He in effect holds that this is not a "controversial issue." Aside from the obvious refutation of this, it being CBS's policy stand on the subject of political assassinations generally, the Harris poll is an overwhelming contrary argument. In my personal experience CBS has even censured legitimate news on this general subject and specifically on this specific case.

I am, therefore, writing to ask the help of the Commission in getting an opportunity to present the side other than that presented by Mr. Foreman (who was very much partizan, having been the lawyer who brought what happened to pass), the side CBS has steadfastly refused to air.

Your files should also show that I asked WJZ-TV in Baltimore for the opportunity of presenting this other side, they having aired Jim Bishop on the David Frost Show. I wrote the Frost Show after this first airing. They never responded. Instead they aired Bishop again. I wrote again and was again unanswered. There has been no response of any kind after a month and a half, so here also I ask the Commission's help. In this case also the subject was the King assassination, the avoidance of a trial for James Earl Ray, etc.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

Bad-does not a turn-down provide an opportunity for a hearing, meaning an airing? And should I ask Jimmie to have me ask for time to respond in his name, each show having called him the shooter, something he has never admitted and denies?