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December 3, 1967

Mr. J.R. Wiggins, editor
The Washington "Post"
1515 L St., NW
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Wiggins,

If I find it impossible to lose myself in respect for the editorial integrity of the Washington "Post", I cannot but acknowledge it is consistent.

Last year UPI distributed an indecent scribbling in commemoration of the anniversary of the murder of President Kennedy so conspicuously inaccurate that when the Pulitzer Prize is awarded on this basis, Merriman Smith will win his second. To the Washington "Post", this obscenity was so important and such "hot" news it was worthy of first prominence in the Sunday editorial section - a week late.

Once you knew it to be libellous you were satisfied to print no rectification because it libelled me.

UPI did learn a little of its monument to the integrity and honor of American reporting of the 1960s. This year it asked me to write a piece "from the other side", the first time any major American newspaper or wire service has ever offered such a voice to anyone who has written that the government erred in its investigation of the assassination. It thought well enough of this piece to put it on the wire. There was hard news in it. Thus, the Washington "Post" had no interest in it.

However, you need not feel lonely. If a single American newspaper/^{printed}"the other side", I have yet to hear of it.

And thus we have a monument, too, to ~~the~~ editorial integrity and honor of the newspapers for which these reporters write.

If I can do nothing else about it, I can do this: I can leave a record in tribute to those strong hands and noble minds so uniquely equipped to preserve the sacred freedom of the first amendment.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg