

NEF ADDRESS: Rt. 7, Frederick, Md. 21701::::301/473-8180

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 conc:

Last year UPI distributed an iridescent scribbling in commemoration anniversary of the murder of President Kennedy conspicuously inaccurate that when the Pulitzer Prize is awarded on this basis, Merriman Smith would win his second. To the Washington "Post", this obscenity was so important 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 re because it labelled me.

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

However, you need not feel lonely. If a single American newspaper other side", I have yet to hear of it.

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

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

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg