

Star Author to Critic 9/8/66

SIR: Your journalistic embodiment of all three fabled monkeys, Jeremiah O'Leary, in the polemic pretending to be a review of my book, "Whitewash: The Report on the Warren Report," commits exactly the same errors he attributes to critics of the commission. His ax-swing is practiced but, having sharpened the weapon, he uses the wrong end. And his display of ignorance of what he pretends to inform your readers about is monumental.

A President of the United States was murdered. Do we live, or does O'Leary want us to live, in a society in which there may remain a single unanswered question that it is within the capacity of man to answer? Can there be any doubt about the adequacy of the investigation and the institution of the presidency or any incumbent ever being safe? President Kennedy was bestowed the dubious epitaph of a most questionable inquest. This "Whitewash" proves with the Commission's own evidence.

This so-called review is its own kind of testimonial to the content, viability and approach of "Whitewash." There are 110,000 words in it, and not one does O'Leary even try to prove wrong. He substitutes his own unwillingness to believe what he cannot refute. Nor does he even allude to the entirely irrefutable photographic evidence printed in "Whitewash" alone of the books, proving this evidence was tampered with, some of it actually destroyed. In fact, he really says nothing about my book, does not in any way report what it says.

Harold Weisberg.