

9/1/71

Dear Js,

Got to read all the clips with your 8/29. mailing and found the new stuff (to me) in the old Kaplan-Vidal case fascinating. What seems to have escaped attention prior to this is the apparent connection with the Kaplan family, fund or both of two of the more uninformed and passionate defenders of the Warren Commission, Nizer, noted as the man with whom the Mexican lawyer is associated, and Belli, who speaks for the Kaplan California sister. Prominent as these lawyers are, it is a rather exceptional upsetting of the odds for the two lawyers in all the land first and most vociferously out for the Report are these two.

Reprint Texas Observer LBJ Library story a delight!

Younger: wrote him. No response, none expected.

Chandler, pleasant, ineffectual, well-intentioned, henpecked, well-liked by LIFE, wanted to go to France and write plays three years ago, but not a good investigative reporter in his own right. Position gets him fed things. Example: the FBI doped out long before I saw it that the Crawford in LHO's addressbook had to be Dave. It interviewed him twice by phone, and he never wrote a story (then on States) or on what he knew that the FBI reported, what Oswald had told him. I interviewed him, on tape, with permission, but he had to ask his wife's okay first!

LAT 8/16 story: yes, I have, thanks, from another source. I hear there has been one or more large stories since, but don't trouble to send unless I ask. They may also be given to me. It seems clear to me that the herd of intended goats is growing. If you know enough to indicate whether that clerk will fight, I'd like a hint. I think I can help him. I'll not be surprised if Charach is next. He is an easier mark than Blehr or Harper. I have and offered NBC the secret transcript of the hearing in chambers without defense (and refer to in PM) and offered it to NEC 1/71/ They hemmed and hawed until 7/71, by which time, not long after I gave them copy, the story began to break. They Ron or Don Elliott had been sitting on it for two weeks after they referred it to him before there was any public mention. This part has never been used and I am now just as happy, for it is one of the side kicks in PM that give it force and help round the power and story and parallels with the destruction of and tampering with evidence.

Presume you know backgrounds on Karnow (old Hongkong watcher) and Marder. Lil watches this stuff for us, will until tax seasons, when I'll have to start wasting time on papers again.

Back to PM. All but one few adds roughed. Need to that and integrate then go over the third Lil has read, then start intro for unified book-and then unify, beginning with heavy cuts 1st part. Thanks, best, and hurry back from that other moonside.

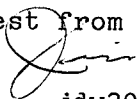
HW:

Do you have a copy of an LA Times story, 16aug71, by Dave Smith: "Sirhan Case -- Was There A Second Gunman ?" We can make you a copy if you don't already have it.

Special thanks, by the way, for two long clips you sent from the Washington Post on China, one by Stanley Karnow, another by Murray Marder, the latter of critical importance in some ways.

Still on the other side of the moon, More later.

Best from us both,



jdww30aug71