

2/3/77

Dear Dave,

Your letter of the 30 on your appearance at the alumni banquet sounds like you really reached them. Great.

You will find this is true of the Rotarians, the Kiwanians, the Civitans, the Lions and all other civic groups. The people are this way, whatever their origins or stations in life. In my experience there is no single exception.

Your reference to the films reminds me of my need for a duplicate set of all those relating to Lovelady and the shirts.

The requests for use of the symposium material appear to me to be encouraging.

Moving a mountain (aka Institution) is not easy. I'd regard any motion as an accomplishment.

On the errant committee: I've not been in a real battle. Just a few little opportunities not missed. Most seem to have had some influence.

Gonzalez' people are claiming, and I have no reason to dispute them, that if he had not broken his back to get this two-month deal they would have died.

I haven't thought this through by my hunch is there will be still more deparate coacms and weird promises on the one hand and easy news-management on the other, by the feds who want no exposures of any kind. Aside from what can be expected of them not being promising I believe the committee's future is not promising.

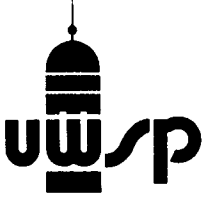
It has blown its only chance to get off to a decent ~~start~~^{start} and to ward its enemies off. If would have been an easy matter. I did spell it out. I had been agreed to. Or, I anticipated correctly. I did this also with Sprague, warning him against all the errors he then proceeded to make.

As I've been telling Jim, when he returns to Philadelphia - as I still expect - I expect to hear no disparaging remarks about chicken-farmers from him.

I do go to Detroit the 9th and stay there overnight. On the Lou Gordon show. On King. Now it appears there is no need to travel farther.

We still have enough snow on the ground for upper Wisconsin. It is gone in D.C.

Thanks and best to all,



university of wisconsin / stevens point • stevens point, wisconsin 54481

January 30, 1977

Harold Weisberg
RR 12
Frederick Maryland 21701

Dear Harold:

Jim sent me the clipping from the W Post where you are quoted in an article critixing the new efforts to gain funding for the Assassination Committee. It reads soundly and I hope your battle goes well.

I spoke to the Alumni banquet on campus here about a week ago using the Groden film, the Willis, the Altgen sequence of Lovelady, Z202, the spliced Z frames, the reversed ones, the curb stone sequence, etc. I spoke dispassionately without taking a position on the central facts, but providing merely elucidating information on the background of the picutres, stated the official Warren Report statements.

The crowd was about 35 or 40 who are mainly businessmen insurance agents, community leaders etc. They really liked the information and the presentation, with extended applause--but the the applause came a~~fter~~ a long half minute of absolutely dead silence. I turned on one fellow, who turned out to be the most influential preacher in town, the one with all the protestant intellectuals and big wigs in it. He had attended much of the assassination symposium. He stayed afterwards saying we must bring the House investigation committee ~~back~~ to campus, bring back Lesar, Weisberg, Roffman and ~~stax~~ straighten this mess out. I could hardly talk to him he was so animated. (Three other preachers were in the crowd.)

Three more requests for portions of the Symposium material has come in and the local closed circuit TV Cable station is showing it one ~~wxxx~~ session per week. I am now attempting to have the state stations here in the region play selected programs, this is a drawn out affair to arrange. We have been thrown off schedule a bit by the Dean of the Library going to the Hospital for minor surgery, I complained to him about his interruption of my plans, but he just smiled at me. When he is functioning again mechanisms of pricing and procedure will be ironed out. We are moving an institution~~s~~ and this takes much effort educating ~~at~~ every job in the place and arranging and explaining etc. In a week Monday I talk to the Chancellor again.

I am working on the compilation from several sources of a bibliography on the JFK assassination, hoping to make it a major one with extended criticism wh~~ere~~ due, to serve as an appendix (or a s~~eparate~~) for the proposed book.

Best regards

D W
Dave wrone

P.S. your letters just came today & I haven't read them yet.

cc Jim Lesar

Department of History • (715) 346-2334