

Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701
5/19/74

Dear Jon,

Your Zodiac story was fair. Thanks for sending it and the UPI wire copy.

I received no single call from any of the printed press, two from radio station news men, and one from UPI audio. In addition, Jim Eason, an old friend, phoned for a short segment on his show.

And this is the precedent decision on the investigative-files exemption of the FOI law. It makes that law one for suppression. If any paper carried anything like a story, I have not seen it. The law, passed, really, for the major media, was gutted to their silence. No story ever appeared at any stage and the final adjudication was without the taking of a word of testimony - ever.

I go into this because I am the one who can't suffer from the decision and because of your note. I never sue for data where I do not know the results. I would consider myself irresponsible if I did. My book was already written. Had I won it could have ruined years of hard work plus the book insofar as either can hold any personal value to me. One of my purposes was to give the law viability. The decision was procured by perjury the courts refused to address even though it was directed by the appeals panel, which was over-ruled en banc. It should have been the best possible test case on this Exemption.

Meanwhile, I have another well started and have been ruled against by district court.

You ask if I have anything new. This book is almost 100% new and it is far and away the most definitive. No commercial publisher will touch it and I can't extend my debt further to print it myself. Nor do I think it is possible to find those with the interest, dedication and money to make its appearance possible. I have what even the Warren Commission did not have. The work on the book was intensive and covered a period of about six-seven years. So, I also can't give it away. It is a long book and the appendix of unknown official documents could run to a thousand pages. Obviously, it can't.

I have other JFK works under way, some partly written. With no publication prospects.

You put your finger on it when you report the non-reporting of a major freedom-of-the-press decision, one that partly nullifies the First Amendment.

Perhaps this is the greatest single problem in our society today. The major press.

I have started a Watergate book that, except for the opening, will ~~surely~~ consist almost entirely of the unknown, unreported and deliberately suppressed, illuminated with suppressed official evidence and that which was ignored and thus was not official. I mean a definitive book, too. I see no prospect, it will have to include a major expose of the major media or will be dishonest, and I haven't the money to print it myself. There is no other way it can be. And the odd thing is that today I do believe that the serialization rights to the non-suppressors in the media could pay for the printing.

You made no reference to my book on the King assassination. It and my subsequent investigation were responsible for an order for an evidentiary hearing by the sixth circuit court of appeals. I enclose a review. In order to keep this only book in opposition to the official mythology from disappearing I had to buy the remainders, so I have all the remaining copies. There is considerably less interest in this than in any of my other books, which is a surprise. Seemingly no black interest, either.

Best regards,

Harold Weisberg