

JDW- egotripping: My Bantam friend, who has and has read the 500+ pages I did a year ago on WG, told me today that it is remarkable that after all this time and all the "new" exposures no word has to be changed for content and that it is a "virtuoso" performance that none of the new book is dated by Nixon's releases. Also that their tip brass spent yesterday in hectic consultations without being able to see anything safe on WG books. When I said I'd be in NYC and would be glad to confer if they wanted to hear what I have and can suggest, no interest. They had a hot inside confidential source that GL was resigning last night. I am, of course, pleased that nothing I have written is outdated by events and that it holds what is still unknown, including what GL has not yet said. The 6/23 transcripts simply are not being read correctly, are not understood. I am in a chapter showing old passages not understood and their meaning and this will now be mere added confirmation. I expect other transcripts to become available and to add more confirmation and no refutation. ...This repeats the lesson that doing the "impossible" successfully is the one assurance of publisher disinterest...New transcripts do not eliminate Nixon "defenses" not even on CIA stuff. Can provide the Kleindienst "defense" of Haldeman and Ehrlichman. HW 8/7/74

Publisher referred to in Susman letter is ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Penthouse Press. They appear to be willing to publish first in underground format and then regular hardback. If this is true and other terms are agreeable, we'll contract. They have read 2/3 of what I've written and the transcript but not what Lesar has written or any of the appendix, which I think tells several important stories. If the advance alone is not enough to guarantee real promo and distribution efforts we'll not deal.

HW 8/8/74

Progress Report on WW IV- master camera ready through p.209, carded for indexing which will have to await completion until Lil cleans up a complicated tax return! When the index is typed I'll know how much that is relevant I can include in the pages open to total 224, have enough relevant in hand except for two unclear pages JL is to get xeroxed at Lib. Cong. Xerox for Penthouse Press made. They delayed conference from this weekend until Tuesday. Lesar and I go to NYC Sunday to attend other matters before Penthouse meeting. Under circumstances not too bad. Some of HR's makeup should be done over but with other work, not taking time. Will look a little more handmade than necessary. Artist has concept for cover and it to prepare draft by Thursday. Conference on FOI amendment broke up without agreement, so no emergency there. Drafts back-cover blurbs done. Inside covers to be done but none can be complete until we know if we have deal and publisher, if I am not again to be the publisher. HW 8/9/74

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