

MAR 18 1976

Dear Jim,

3/13/76

I'd planned the day for receipt of Besar's second instalment of his (first rate) editing and revision of the draft of an affidavit that is again a direct assault on the FBI, D.J. and USAtty but it didn't come. So, I'm packed for the trip, cleaned other things up and haven't enough time before supper to do any writing.

The period immediately ahead is going to be interesting. I'll work all day tomorrow, on the train and with two reporters in NYU, a friend at CBS interested in assassinations, responsibly, and off on his own; and Ches Payne of Newsday. Monday morning I'll be at Bell's offices to go over their books on the first two Whitewashes. The rest hibs on that. If they stonewall I'll be in New York briefly or longer, depending on whether they just don't deliver or play it like lawyers and waste my time.

Corliss Lamont phoned me. He has to be away this week. When I keep the postponed speaking date at Hunter 4/21 we will get together.

Interest (or non-interest) at Warner in the new King book will depend on the attention to the subject when it is completed.

And when it is completed will depend on what I can't control. I think I'm making good time with the rough, considering all the many interruptions and disturbances, like Playboy. I finally got the school to identify the part-time student/housewife and spoke to her. It took only a month! I may get to use her a little the end of the coming week. But I've much to read and correct as soon as she can start, which may not be on what I think will be a two-day basis until after the calendar call on the FOIA suit for the King material, 3/26. The USAtty has confirmed that I'll be able to go over what they have selected as covered beginning the 23rd. But I'll have to begin that day getting measured again for these infernal veinous supports that they have not made right twice straight.

I'm persuaded that if I get anything it will be good because with the limited amount of fighting I've done on this one I have enough to do something with attention. Good, of course, means bad. Very bad. I'm a bit puzzled but haven't taken time to think it through. I think the FBI knows me well enough by now to know that in what they have given me there is enough, with attention, to cause very serious problems for them. Maybe they're banking on no attention. But they'll know that they gave me proof of more they are withholding and they've said they hadn't. Perhaps they've made their own assessment of the odds.

As usual I've given Jim free rein on the affidavit. I gave him a hasty draft figuring he'd cut it. It turned him on, showed him possibilities, and he's now talking of one 30 legal-sized pages long. I agree. I'd rather have a good record and a direct confrontation even if the judge may not like the work. We'll have to give her to understand that if she clobbers the bastards once and hard she and the other judges will have less work on these cases in the future. I had suggested that we use again an affidavit we used to show official falsifications and deceptions. Jim instead has condensed it and opens with ~~it~~ it.

The CIA was prompt with those 1500 pages. I'll not touch them until I can make an inventory or have one made and check against their list which says little. I have a couple of very bright and very nice girls at AU in mind. One has a new car and they room together.

The King material is so voluminous! Each chapter gets longer than I plan and ~~the~~ the planning begins with brief treatment and much eliminated. Maybe I worry too much about comprehensibility.

Not getting the second affidavit instalment will jame things a bit.

Orders slacked off but not a day without some. The escrow account for reprinting has to be building. Until tax season ends we won't have time to know. Best,