

3/19/76

Dear Steve, *Bell*

After we spoke yesterday and after Lamonica and I spoke Jim Lesar phoned me and then, later, I had time to do more thinking about this. I also read the Readers Digest piece, which I do have. I do not have the Epstein book. (because of my situation and needs I also do not plan to purchase it immediately - I need that money more for other purposes.)

From reading the Digest piece I have something I believe is simple and comprehensible for you. I phoned back but you and Lamonica had both gone. I write now and enclose copies on the chance we do not get together today. I want to get this in the mail that leaves shortly and I have to be gone for a short while this morning.

In addition to lying to cover the CIA ass and defame the FBI where he talks about the June 23, 1964 Warren Commission executive session dealing with Nosenko and what he said Epstein lied perhaps more significantly about how Oswald got to Russia.

Epstein says that Oswald reached England on October 9, 1959 and left the same day. He quotes records other than Oswald's passport in support. However, Oswald's passport establishes that Epstein's is a deliberate lie. Oswald did not leave England until the next day, October 10. On October 10 there was no way in the world for Oswald to have reached Helsinki before midnight, as he did, by any commercial carrier.

The enclosures are Oswald's passport stamp and the CIA's reporting to the Commission on when Oswald reached Helsinki and that it could not have been by commercial carrier. (There is more in the unpublished files but I'm trying to keep it simple and do it fast.)

In this lie Epstein is also covering for the CIA, foreign activities not being the FBI's jurisdiction.

If there is an unknown innocent explanation of Oswald's travel schedules there is no apparent innocent explanation of Epstein's misrepresenting the existing evidence.

Ordinarily, as you know, I have no interest in personal attention, no interest in being on TV. I'd rather stay home and do my work. However, this represents a major disinformation operation in which ABC-TV is being misused. Despite the wealth of the TV nets they cannot have in their employ experts on all subjects. I therefore ask for fairness doctrine time of ABC and on this same show and at the same part of it to present to the same audience the other side it cannot receive except from a subject expert. I ask that you please forward this request to the proper person within ABC.

If my request is granted this will mean I will have a transportation problem because the only available means, a bus, is uncertain and if on time would not enable me to be at your studios until the end of the second hour. I cannot afford a cab for 50 miles. However, I would be willing to have this taped almost at your convenience, preferably right after the end of the second hour.

I hope we get a chance to talk later. I detest the situation in which those of means and determination can misuse all the media and misinform the country.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg