

THE MINORITY OF ONE

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November 17, 1966

Mr. Thomas Stamm
 2705 Bainbridge Avenue
 Bronx, N.Y.
 10458

Dear Mr. Stamm:

You have confirmed what I had guessed: in return for engaging you as proofreader (who was soon to prefer making corrections prior to manuscripts' being set in type), I was to get the magazine's political reorientation, editorial replanning and improvement, and general publishing "collaboration." What a bargain! And all this made so easy as not even to require my advance knowledge, much less consent; your own secret planning sufficing for both of us. Your versatility is amazing; you created a position, found the right man for it, defined his task, gave him authority, and put him to work. And all this in a place where hardly anything was known about you other than your name,

What else could one call an ingrate's rejection of such magnanimity but "savage, petty, personal abuse..."!

Anyway, in "a capital-wage labor relationship," I did buy from you a few commas at an agreed pay, so that your having accepted that pay need cause you no greater remorse than all the earnings you have derived in a life-long "capital-wage labor relationship."

Sincerely,

MSA:mw

M. S. Arnoni

P.S. It has not escaped me that you did not feel comfortable enough to address yourself to the

questionable ethics of offering your own substitutions for other writers' already accepted contributions, but, instead, sought the safety of the you-cannot-go-wrong "guess" that you were not "the only person ever...to have provoked" me.