

5 June 1966

Personal

Mr. Aaron Asher
Viking Press
625 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Aaron,

I am sorry that a discordant note has been sounded in what has been a courteous association up to now.

As I told your secretary on Friday morning, it was not a question of whether or not the photographs of the holes in the shirt and coat would be used to illustrate my review of Ed's book--it was a question of whether good, or poor, photographs would be used. In my vast ignorance of the publication world, and of commerce in general, it did seem to me to be in the interests of the book to have as strong a review as possible; and certainly the photographs are necessary to the review for emphasis, since I had rewritten it in an attempt to counter the Washington Post story and to anticipate attacks expected from other sources.

Although it seemed to me advantageous to all concerned to accompany my review of Ed's book with sharp, clear reproductions of the photographs in question, I recognize that your decision not to make the glossy prints available to THE MINORITY OF ONE might be based on cogent considerations of which I am unaware. So I do not quarrel with the refusal as such.

But I do regret that you did not return Arnoni's phone call and tell him your decision personally. That was a discourtesy to me as well as to Arnoni, since I had originally broached the question with you and since my review was at issue. In the end, I had the embarrassment of informing Arnoni of your refusal, without being able to explain the reason for it, since I did not know the reason.

I will end as I began, by saying that I am sorry and sad that this incident occurred.

Sincerely yours,

Sylvia Meagher
302 West 12 Street
New York, NY 10011

cc: M.S. Arnoni
Edward Jay Epstein