

30 August 1966

Dear Ray,

Thanks for your letter of the 28th and the generous remarks you made about me in your letter to Auchincloss. In the same mail, I received a copy of Arnoni's letter to you; he had already told me that he was genuinely impressed by your study of the stretcher bullet and that he found your writing crystal-clear. I tried to reach Silvers but could not; will try again as soon as I can find the time but meanwhile let me mention that from the little I know about him, and the pressure of work at the NY R of Books, 2 weeks is nothing, it may take considerably longer for him to look at the article.

Last week was one of the busiest I have ever experienced. Esquire asked me to do a piece, also to review an article by Ed Epstein for factual accuracy. It will be in the December issue. Had calls from CBS News and London Sunday Times, in search of background on the WR. They also called several of the other researchers. CBS is considering doing a special program; London S. Times is doing a major piece apparently for their Oct. 9th issue. Liebeler and Epstein were on TV together and Epstein was absolutely DISASTROUS. I really let him have it the next morning --and have not heard from him since. I learned afterward that at least three other people had given him a tongue-lashing for his extremely weak position and for capitulating and almost apologizing to Liebeler. It was a terrible disgrace.

Penn Jones arrived yesterday and I took him and his wife to dinner. He is here to tape a TV 2-hour special on a local NYC station, together with Lane, Sauvage, Weisberg, Epstein, and Jacob Cohen--Cohen being there in defense of the WR. None of the WC members or lawyers would agree to appear. I went to the studio with Penn for a dry run (Lane and Epstein were not there, as they are arriving in NYC only today, for the taping tonight). I had already formed a very poor impression of Cohen; meeting him last night only made me feel even more hostile toward him. Fred Cook has warned that Cohen is very dangerous, may be CIA.

I am very interested in what you told me about Mort Sahl; that ties in with what Arnoni heard from a Los Angeles newsstand distributor, who sent an order for 10,000 TMOs, which he attributed to favorable mentions of TMO by Sahl on his program. Penn Jones similarly got an order for 10,000 copies of his book, and I am sure that that too stems back to Sahl.

I am very glad that Lillian's husband is well enough to go home. Please tell her I am thinking about her and hoping very much that all will go very well. I had a letter from Maggie the other day, written just as she was leaving Paris; she feels very cut off, which is understandable, and I wrote her as much as I could, to fill her in on what has been going on.

I had a stupid letter from Auchincloss in reply to my comments on his review of R to J; he is so thick-headed that he has the impression that the autopsy diagrams in XVII pp 45-46 were drawn by the FBI and SS agents! Sauvage was on the Barry Gray radio program last night; it was a dirty rigged affair, he was not given a chance to speak, he did well and certainly didn't backtrack one inch, but they harangued and physically drowned him out.

Can't think of anything else of special importance; my brain isn't functioning well this morning. Will write again as soon as I can, or if there are new developments. My best to you and to my other friends there,

As always,