

3 December 1966

Dear Shirley,

Just got your letter of 12/1/66 and I guess you did lose the note, because I didn't get it. Did you receive Epoca? I had heard from several people what a beauty you are; and it was a treat to see your photograph. It was interesting also to see pictures of Lifton and Harold Feldman, neither of whom I have met personally. In case your Italian is better than mine and you read the piece about me, I do not have a "black" cat (and I hope I am not a witch)! My cat is black-and-white, and very vain about her looks (good thing she doesn't read Italian). Speaking of looks, I am expecting Larry Schiller and his associate in about an hour. Everyone I meet these days seems young and good-looking. I guess I am beginning to feel my years. And, incidentally, the photo of me in Epoca is a very old one—I asked them to indicate that it was taken years ago, but I don't think they did.

I may be wrong about the Elsbeth Street address; I was going by what was in the H & E and strictly in terms of the printed record it is at least ambiguous. In writing about any part of the case, I usually have in mind two questions which are related but different—(1) What is the evidence and what does it mean? (2) How did the Commission perform with respect to eliciting, evaluating, and reporting on the evidence? In some instances, I may feel satisfied on the score of the evidence as such; but critical of the way it was handled or reported by the Commission.

Had a brief talk with Penn after his Boston experience, which seemed to depress him greatly. Maybe I will get to Dallas in January—I am invited to the University of Victoria on the 12th and I thought that on my way back, if I can get time off from the office and someone to care for my cat, I might go to Los Angeles to see Maggie Field, and then to Dallas, for a day or two each. If this works out, I will let you know the exact plans.

I am working, never fear, and probably too proud of myself—I find I am scrapping with people, easily filled with disapproval or disgust, and taking a high moral posture, all attitudes which are not typical of me pre-WR. I am utterly disgusted with Dave Lifton, for example, and I just cannot persuade myself that I am wrong or too severe—He has been fraternizing with and confiding in Liebeler, while withholding the same information from the critics, and I cannot forgive such treachery. I am beginning to feel the same way about Epstein—I think he is emotionally on the side of the WC and its lawyers, and a faint-hearted yellow-belly who has no manners, no maturity, and no sense of fraternity with any of the critics—On the contrary, I think he really believes us all to be kooks. Shirley, do let me hear from you as often as you can manage, and I will try to write at greater length than has been possible recently. Things are happening so fast I cannot seem to keep up. All my love,

sylvia