

11/9/66

Dear Sylvia, in the few minutes before supper I want to ask you to please send a copy of the errate to your index to Richard Whalen, 5th. floor, 810 18th. St., nw Washington, D.C. as soon as you can. He is author of The Founding Father, is working on this for the Saturday Evening Post and, in my opinion, is of the utmost competence. He brings a new value and importance to the work and will be doing vital things others cannot. He just received his copy of the index and it was ~~without~~ errate. I have been helping him and intend to.

Your reference to Esquire remind me that when Epstein was on WTOP in Washington he began by saying he had written a review for December's Esquire which included WHITEWASH. He then misrepresented the contents of the book and made other dirty cracks with no inspiration from me. When I called he cowardly refused to discuss anything except to protest he could not misquote me because he had not read my book!

It was more unfortunate because the man who runs the program had an unclear recollection of what happened when they offered me a share of the 40 minutes they gave Lane. They had been promising listeners that they were going to have me, never even approached me, and then announced Lane. When I protested they asked me to join him. I said I would but thought his wrong on several counts, first because it was unfair to him to fly from and back to New York for just 20 minutes and second because we had different views about many things and the end result would not be constructive. They agreed to my suggestion that instead they slate me for the first cancellation they had. This they did, may I add, and when I appeared I encouraged listeners to read all the books, including Inquest. When he forgot to mention/ Sauvage I mention it and said a few nice things about him. What Epstein did in assaulting me and in an unmanly way not allowing me to respond is but one of my rewards.

I am going to defend myself. I am going to take no more of this. There have been many things of which you, without doubt, are not aware. I am, and I have suffered for them. Things will be different from now on.

Your friendship with Epstein is entirely your own affair, but he is an evil influence in this field, finking all ~~the~~ ^{over} the place, talking as though he had the remotest idea of what he is talking about. It is a kindness to put it this way. The alternatives are less complimentary. He is now in open defense of the Report.

There are nasty rumors down here that I do not believe. I have a very low opinion of him from his record of work and conduct. He is no man. But I do not believe he is, in effect, a running dog for those we oppose, at least not by agreement, which is the story I now hear.

While we are on rumors, have you heard anything more about Cohen's connections? The editing of the tape credits the report you heard and it credits the report that WNEW denied to me, that they were "assisted" in the editing.

Please understand my bluntness is intended as an act of friendship, not insult.

Penn is printing Ray's monograph. I tried to encourage Ray to flesh it out, both in person and by mail, but without success. It would take but a little work to make it read better and contribute much more. I believe the time for specialization is here. By exhausting that subject Ray could make a really valuable contribution. The way things are going, before he can have that out Specter may ~~not~~ even be denying the single-bullet theory. The assistant counsel seem to be very worried. They will get even more worried, and very soon. We are not as alone as we once were.

Sincerely,

