

11 June 1969

Dear Harold,

You may indeed feel quite sure that I was not, and would not be, a party to any effort to defame or libel you, or any other person, not even Garrison. I have absolutely no connection with Epstein's book "Counterplot," despite the misleading "acknowledgment."

I did co-operate with Epstein in lending him published material and checking his citations of material in the Hearings & Exhibits when he was preparing the ms. for his New Yorker article on Garrison. That help was given on the clear understanding that Epstein would use the article to appeal for a new investigation and a re-opening of the WR for the very reason that Garrison's so-called investigation was a farce, made possible for the very reason that no action was being taken by any responsible, competent body. This was Epstein's own argument and statement of his intention when he first discussed the planned article with me.

Of course, it was only a piece of bait. He never had any intention of asking for a new investigation but, on the contrary, attacked the Garrison campaign in order to throw respectable robes over the fraudulent Warren Report. When I saw the article in print without the promised appeal for a new investigation I was disgusted and bitter, and sent Epstein a letter telling him what I thought of his duplicity, dishonesty, and opportunism. Needless to say, this eunuch and coward did not even reply.

That letter was sent to Epstein in July 1968, just after the New Yorker article came out, and I have had absolutely nothing to do with him or his dirty works since that time except to denounce him in my letter to the NY Times Magazine, copy of which I sent him personally. I agree with your assessment of his character, especially as to his laziness, opportunism, and treachery even to those to whom he is indebted. In his New Yorker article, he did not even have the decency to make it plain that I had been on the record, long before him, in repudiating Garrison.

I did not buy his book, which I assumed was essentially the same as the article, not wishing to put one dime into his stuffed pockets, bulging with the proceeds of his various sell-outs. However, Tom Stama recently found that he had somehow acquired two copies, and gave me one of them. I was angered by his misleading "acknowledgment" but comforted by the fact that the book was thoroughly ignored by the reviewers and the public. Incidentally, Paris Flammonde did the same thing, with even less excuse: I never saw his ms. and what is more he was fully aware that I would regard it with utmost contempt when I saw it as a published book. The "help" consisted merely of receiving several phonecalls from him and answering an occasional question about Marina Oswald's testimony and statements or other material in the H & E.

As to the other matters mentioned in your letters of 6/5/69 and 6/8/69, both of which I appreciated, I will delay comment for the moment, because we are in a big "flap" here at the UN and I am working hard and late, and due to spend July at the World Health Assembly in Boston, which means a lot of advance preparation. Be sure that I will write you more fully the moment I have the time and the peace of mind. Meanwhile, all the best, as always,