

1 March 1971

Dear Harold,

Thank you for the recent envelope of various correspondence you sent me. I was hoping that it would include accopy of the Publishers Weekly review of your book FRAME-UP but it is understandable that you forgot it with all the many matters on your mind.

As you requested, I am returning herewith the copy of your letter to Hoch on Epstein and the Black Panthers. Or, more accurately, your letters to Hoch, totalling some 12 pages. I agree with virtually everything you have said about the article, which I regard as the dirtiest and most obscene snow-job yet written by Epstein, one which demonstrates his steady progression from the merely super-cautious liberal eager to make his mark on the liberal-intellectual scene by attacking the Establishment without giving serious offense...to the opportunist who dishonestly made a deserved expose of Garrison the occasion for an implicit vindication of the WR...to the new outright whore for the J. Edgar Heevers and John Mitchells and their moral accomplice in what is indisputably tantamount to racist/fascist genocide, in which the "numbers" as such are irrelevant and immaterial.

I can only infer, from your letters, that Hoch swallowed this foul and nauseating brew and found it good...which does not surprise me. He is, after all, Epstein's soul-brother, as his malen paper revealed. I am only surprised that you continue to think that there is something there to salvage. I have been wrong about many people, so I cannot reproach you for persisting to have hope for Hoch, even when he betrays his own inner rot by his readiness to buy the Epstein filth. I fear that sooner or later you will come to realize that Hoch is incapable of redeeming himself, because he is basically the very same whore as Epstein.

By the way, there were two Ed Epsteins at Cornell, one who was very flamboyant and travelled to Africa and is probably the same as the one who was trying to raise money to go to Alaska.

Another correction: On the second page of your long letter to Hoch, where you give a most generous characterization of my work (for which I thank you), you credit me undeservedly for the notes in INQUEST. I did not "do" these notes, I merely checked them against the 26 volumes for accuracy, and I indexed the book.

About the court papers in CA 2569-70---I am grateful for your offer but for the moment do not put me on the forwarding lists.

I caught Mitchell's interview and I fully agree with your interpretation of the anachronism---that the material was spoon-fed to Epstein by the DJ. I am also returning herewith your letter to Doris Brown, as I do not have an address for "GRS" (Scheener, I presume).

I am really looking forward to receiving your book on or about 3/24/71. I've sent an order and check. Send me the PW review if you get a chance.

All the very best,