

JOHN BARKHAM
27 EAST 65TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021

April 30, 1971

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Coq d'Or Press
Route 8
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

The New York Post has passed on to me your letter of April 11 taking issue with my review of your book, "Frame-Up." In my twenty years of daily reviewing I cannot recall ever before having received from an author so intemperate a commentary.

I was startled not so much by its matter as by its manner. On the basis of my review -- and to the best of my knowledge this is the first of your books I have ever reviewed -- you level at me such charges as "dishonesty of intent," "shameful scribbling," "sycophantic inconsistency," "lengthy diatribe," "hate, venom and corruption." All this because of a 700 word review which, though disagreeing with your central thesis, does so in what I submit are sober, measured terms.

You will doubtless write other books in the future which reviewers may or may not like. I suggest that you do not advance your cause by personally abusing those who differ with you or by questioning their integrity. As an investigative reporter you sought to persuade readers that a miscarriage of justice occurred in the Martin Luther King -- James Earl Ray case. I happen to think that you have not yet proved your case. Since Ray is attempting to reopen the matter, it is ~~still~~ possible that the full story may still come out in court. Till then I stand on my view that your book and other such books "make it more than ever regrettable that a full trial was never staged."

Sincerely yours,

