

To Jim Garrison from Harold Weisberg 3/17/68

Appraisal of Orest Pena

This trip I have seen much of Orest. We have become good friends. This association fortifies the previous appraisal I gave you of him. In emphasizing it I acknowledge I am one of the two most-easily deceived men I know.

He has been very helpful. He has gone to expense for us and for me personally. Last night, when something else I'd planned was impossible, we had a very pleasant social evening together. I was his guest.

He enjoys good living and is anything but stingy. He is candid and perceptive, both wise and shrewd. He may be overly suspicious, but the suspicions run in the right direction.

I am entirely convinced his travels are for pleasure and relaxation and to forget the normal worries of the busy businessman. And he knows how to live well, how to enjoy the luxuries of life and to appreciate what for him are the essentials.

He has, I think, made his decision, and I believe no pressure will change his mind. I think it would be prudent if, with his experience with lawyers, someone could recommend one who would likely hold up and not counsel him to cave in to the pressures that require a lawyer. Doing this would also serve our interests, for it would be good to have an impartial reading to to have knowledge of the source of the pressures.