

10/2/76

Mr. Michael Klein
22D Colonial Drive
New Paltz, N.Y. 12561

Dear Mr. Klein,

Your letter of the 25th came the first of two days I had to spend in court in my FOIA cases this week.

I have heard from Dr. Sperber, thanks, and I've written him.

I have the Cointelpro book.

On the books I have already published and those on which the rights have reverted to me I am the publisher. I can't forecast the future. I've a new book on the King assassinate 2/3 drafted. The government is delaying it by tying me up in court on the withheld evidence.

There is a problem for books on this subject if they appear under any political imprint. The public assumes they represent that political point of view. The political publisher, on the other hand, does have a political point of view, as is his right.

In the party sense my work is not political.

One of the values of a publisher is the advance that enables the work. With a completed work there is no such value. What then is important to the author is the promotional and advertising effort. With a small publisher this generally amounts to none.

I appreciate the suggestion but I do not believe it is practical.

Whether it is or not for the moment is also is academic.

Many thanks,

Harold Weisberg

SEPTEMBER 25, 1976

HAROLD WEISBERG
ROUTE 12, OLD RECEIVER ROAD
FREDERICK, MARYLAND 21701

MR. WEISBERG,

Thank you for writing me about the current status of your suit against the FBI and I hope that your health is improving.

I turn^d the list of your books over to a friend, Irwin Sperber, who teaches at the State University here in New Paltz. He is going to try to have the library order the complete collection.

I am writing to suggest a possible publishing option for your books. I understand that you created your own publishing house to avoid the possible repression and or censorship of established houses. My concern is that your important books cannot receive the sort of attention due the subject without an organization backing them with publicity, tours, reviews and media coverage.

Until 1974 I was a member of the Socialist Workers Party and up until that time PATHFINDER PRESS (wholly owned by the party) was occasionally printing the work of outsiders. As you know it is the SWP's suit under the FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT that has created so much public pressure on the FBI of late. So that now is a time when they could well see their way to backing books such as yours.

Though the press is run by the SWP, it is run as a business and I don't think you would have to worry about the 'taint' of having your books published by 'communists'. They are serious, hard-working and interested in having information of this type reach the American people.

Though I left the party over political differences I still have many friends in the organization and you certainly may inquire using my name as a reference. I do not know who is currently at the head of Pathfinder, but their address is listed below.

Again, many thanks for your reply and I do hope you're feeling better.

SINCERELY

Michael Klein

MICHAEL KLEIN
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410 WEST STREET
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NOTE: In case you havent seen it, a friend of ^{mwe} my Nelson Blackstock (also an SWP member and current editor of the MILITANT) has written a book published by Vintage Press, titled COINTELPRO. It is well worth reading. MK