

FARRAR, STRAUS & GIROUX, INC. *Book Publishers*

NOONDAY PAPERBACKS

March 11, 1966

Mr. Harold Weisberg
100 Star Farm
Wheatstown, Maryland 20234

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

Although I had finished your truly fascinating and certainly worthwhile book almost a week ago, an incredibly and unexpectedly busy schedule and crowded calendar ~~has~~ just not permitted me to write before this.

I am afraid, for a myriad of reasons, that I must simply echo what I am sure has been written to you by other publishers--in the main that--you have written a valid and in my opinion highlypotentially saleable book (15,000 copies anyway) but it is nonetheless not something that we wish to publish. WHITEWASH is simply not compatible with our present editorial direction. I have discussed your book in detail with Roger W. Straus, Jr. who in turn has been in discussion with the other members of the editorial department and they are all agreed that our editorial budget and attention must be directed almost entirely, if not entirely, toward contemporary literature and its criticism.

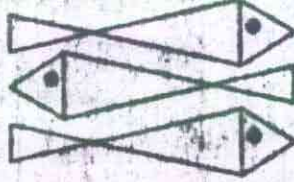
At this point after seeing that list of publishers with whom you have been in discussion about the book's publication--a list impressive in both its size and scope, I really think that I can be of little practical help in bringing your work to the attention of others. You have obviously contacted all those whom I might and, therefore, I am returning the manuscript to you separately by bookpost with the thought that you will be able to put it to better use than I.

What can I say? I think you are a damned good writer who has written a damned good book and I sincerely wish you the best of luck with it elsewhere.

Very truly yours,

Peter Clark

PC/fs



FARRAR, STRAUS & GIROUX, INC. Book Publishers

NOONDAY PAPERBACKS

March 24, 1966

Mr. Harold Welsberg
c/o On Farm
Patterson, Maryland 20234

Dear Mr. Welsberg:

I do hope you'll excuse my not replying sooner to your letter of March 14th--my schedule became an unexpectedly busy one and that, coupled with a few days spent on sick call, has put me behind in my correspondence.

In an effort to be helpful I have spoken with Larry Hill at Hill and Wang and asked that he have your manuscript read. He has agreed (although they are currently considering another book on the subject) and I suggested that you send it directly to his attention with a brief covering note reminding him that yours is the book that he and I discussed. The address is 141 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10010.

Now, it occurs to me that it would in no way be unethical to share with Mr. Hill your letters to me and that it would probably be helpful in providing him with the necessary background, however, I will do so only at your direction. Please let me know how you are thinking about it.

We still looking forward to that visit one of these days soon.

Sincerely,

Peter Clark