

5/21/71

Dear Ed,

Thanks for urlot 19 w Joesten ugh! Rest I deserve, huh? Started this a.m. at 4, yesterday not much later. First 30 pages new book proposal done and retyped, working an second of two parts. And it has to be very accurate, for it is very hot. If anything on this subject is anymore.

As usual, you pu the problem very well.

On the Shaw perjury trial: unless federal court throws it out, it will proceed. After it the others (which I hope does not mean the deluge!). Now it happens that I believe he did perjur himself and I can't figure out why, unless it was to escape conviction.

Please wtach also for the McMillan book. I understand Little, Brown.

Joesten is even sicker than he is sickening.

But he sure has the right motto, news unfit to print!

He can't even steal sensibly.

But I'm glad to get it. I'll shudder until I see what he does in the next on the panel (of which I'd written a book before the trial).

Thanks,

May 19, 1971

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 8
Frederick, Md. 21701

Dear Harold:

You certainly deserve a rest after your difficult schedule. Be sure you get one!

The Kaplan and Gertz reviews, considering their source, were predictable.

The problem of communicating your thesis lies in revealing the larger motivation of forces. The characters involved in the operational act, encapsulated from their context, appear to be simply criminals or malcontents. Any other view appears paranoid and indeed there is no "vast plot".

What exists is simply a convergence of economic and social interests of an interlocking nature.

The forces of this spectrum can be shown in terms of probabilities but never "proved" in the purist sense.

The Maheu material confirms your former views. Perhaps, it was fortunate the Shaw perjury trial didn't take place.

No word in publishing circles on the Frank book. "The Company" is bi-partisan. "His (McCarthy's) Cal. Campaign Chairman Tom Finney and--- ex-CIA man Tom McCoy--- sat watching the progress of the voting.¹

Joesten reveals a rather tenuous grasp of evidence and the usual misinterpretations.

Sincerely,


Edward R. Williams

¹ Divided They Stand by David English (Prentice-Hall, Inc).