

15 July 1969

Dear Max,

Thanks for your note of the 14th. Yes, I agree with your description of Howard Gotlieb. I was especially pleased with his very real, eager interest in the case itself, not merely with my papers as such. Unfortunately, I will not see him again during my remaining time in Boston, as he has left (as I understand it) on his vacation. But I hope to see him again in New York, or perhaps here one day, if I can return.

I too had heard horrendous stories about Ralph Schoenman, from a number of different and unrelated people, but, like you, I found him very likeable and pleasant, and am inclined to ignore the unfavorable reports until such time as personal experience may confirm them. (See how hard it is for me to be permanently jaundiced? even after the indescribable shock that I had to share with you?)

As for news on the case: No, Max, I know of nothing. This Boston meeting had crowded out everything for a few weeks before I left New York and of course here, with the Assembly in progress, I am shut off from the outside world and have no information. However, I doubt if anything has happened, since I provided this address in advance to a number of monitors who would not fail to write if anything significant occurred.

I am taking advantage of an accidental respite to write this; I may not get another chance. But we will surely be in touch when I return. Meanwhile, work well on the Mark Twain, and enjoy the summer. Best affection,

*Alvin*