

31 December 1971

Mr George E Rennar
7316 13th Ave N.W.
Seattle 98107

Dear George,

Some while ago one of my nieces loaned me her copy of the 700-page volume containing the final trilogy in the Forsyte chronicles. To my embarrassment, I have not yet got around to cracking the book open, thanks to a hectic pace at the office and various other pressures. Therefore, it was with mixed feelings—including some mystification—that I received yesterday sans explanation the 1000-page volume of J. Robert Oppenheimer transcripts. ~~Hmmmm~~ (I thought), my friend in Seattle wants to return me to my old avocation of reading Commission transcripts...but why?

Never mind, I was hooked at once, and most unscientifically I started to read out of sequence—first, the testimony of Luis Alvarez, a bete noir since the infamous CBS "news inquiry" on the NR. Quite the busy little Government witness, is Alvarez—having hammered a few nails into Oppenheimer's coffin as well as helped the Air Force obfuscate the whole UFO phenomena by serving on its panel circa 1949 (?) and I wonder what other little services between those and the more recent assist to the Federals via CBS? To say nothing of what he might have done had his melon-shooting partnership with Paul Hoch not been aborted (my disgust with Hoch has not subsided and apparently never will).

Next I read Dr. Teller, the first Dr. Strangelove, though today I find Kissinger deserves the appellation even more. No surprises. Finally, before starting this letter, I read Dr. I. Rabi, simply because I was on a committee early this year at the UN on which Rabi was a very prominent member. Now, here was a real man and a genuine gutsy bright guy—"What else do you want, MERMAIDS?" I got such gratification from the Rabi testimony that I wanted to set down and thank you for the book, for whatever reason you sent it.

Before returning to my reading, warm thanks for sending the book, and a Very Happy New Year to the attorney-at-last, may you have many and worthy clients.

Sincerely,