11/25/72

Dear Jim,

I have a notion that contrary to Margaret's saying she found the carbons of the letters she was to have sent me on the 7th (naturally including one not written for a week!), when David wrote them he had no intention of sending them to me. They are not carbons but photocopies anyway. One is at least a second such, the other a third. Thus I ask a legal egglf is there is any significence in this line of his first letter to Dutton: "The present situation is particularly unfortunate as Harold Weisberg has on a number of occasions threatened to sue the company on grounds we have considered invalid but this will give him grounds so please take all necessary szeps action to get these books back."

Jerry told you about this on the 6th. His later note to me says the ad first appeared in the Times of the 28th, with the catalogue as a supplement.

Ian McDonald tried to get you all day yesterday. He is with the Times of London. You know, the extradition people? He had prepared a story on the dubious business in the extradition, filed it and then the printers went on a long strike. That ended that one. He did his own research, which concluded as I had told him. His office number is 347-7659. He is on the 5th floor of the National Press Bldg. I think he should have a copy of the papers. He is leaving Saturday for the moon shot and won't return until the following thursday. I'll see him before he goes and when he returns. We're keeping his dog in his absence. (If you ever see the dog, for kilts' sake don't say "Campbell" for he reacts like a true McDonald!)However, I won't be in DC this week after Monday, as things now stand.

Fred Graham is no longer with the NYTimes. CBS instead. I phoned him between other things yesterday, after his replacement had left for the weekend. I'll try to try the replacement again Monday. And not Graham at CBS, but a friend, for whom I've left a message, too. I'll call you before going home.

I've dropped a note to Ben Bagdikian including the mention of the petition. I don't know what he is doing now.

An idea on the copies of the petition if they are late: instead of mail, use Greyhound. If you can't get to Ian early in the week, include a set for him with mine. I'll pick them up together and can give his to Ian Friday. They'll be here for dinner, so as late as a Friday morning bus can make it. I feel a London Times story on the extradition might feed back. There is a chance, anyway. And he knows the law. Be better before he goes, tho. So, if Bud files early enough, you can see Ian and show him the right places. He'll even make xeroxes and return the copy. So will Larry and Paul, by the way. I've asked both. No false modesty when you've been broke as long as I have.

As the enclosed carbon to Rife shows, he is thinking of going public. Heard today.

Developments on my damage suit are worse than I anticipated in talking to Bill Monday. The damned lawyer has set the case for trial without having begun to prepare it and without time under the best of circumstances, which they are not. I've had to review all the correspondence. Uncomfortable. I'd appreciate it if you or Dick could find time soon for a Martindale rundown on the firm's clients. I don't expect DOD, but an aviation one would be interesting. Venable, Baetjer and Howard, Mercantile Bank & Trust Bldg., 2 Hopkins Plaza, Baltimore. Harvey Clapp III our lawyer. 52 names on letterhead. Big. I'll be putting the review of the file on paper.

There are other things, but this kind of pre-empts the mind.

Best,