12/8/71

Dear Ned,

Before I left on a very tiring trip that lasted three weeks I wrote and asked that you return those of my materials you had not for use, from POST MORTEM. I also asked your assurance that you had made no such use and will make none. I'd much rather be answering aconsiderable stack of accumulated mail, or typing notes while the subjects are fresh in my mind, that writing you to ask for this again.

Will you please do it promptly? As you yourself pointed out, I am not a corporation president, so I can't afford the luxuries, like wasting time.

In some ways this was my most successful trip/investigation, in both NewOrleans and Dallas. I do not expect you to accept my assurances, but I offer them: in the areas of our dispute I have new corroboration and I am completely right and accurate. This is not to brag but to get you to think, for yourself, without comment to me. This relates not only to fact and content but to your insistence that with but six months of second-hand experience your judgement is the one that should prevail.

As I believe I wrote you, you do not have to return the two earlier parts of POST MORTEM or COUP, but you have no authorization to use any of their contents in any way. All the rest you are to return. I do you you will, without my having to write again.

Sincerely,

Dear Gary, I'd appreciate it if you'd take the time to see to it that Ned does this immediately. I very much fear that his ego will drive him to do the reprehensible, and if could be hurtful to me and the possibilities of doing something with the overall work. He may or may not be sympathetic to the way I spend my time, but spend it I do, and without doing all I should and feel I must. I've had to lay important legal matters aside, for example, and they require great effort. I should not have to write about such things more than once, if, indeed, at all, and I have had to. On any corrections or suggestions you may make, if you have read the work with this in mind: except for serious error, I just will not be able to find time to do anything to the first and panel parts now. I'd appreciate the return of the new last part as soon as you have read it for I am short on copies. When you are here, I'll update you on what I learned in Dallas. I haven't decided whether to add it in the form of notes, in a new short chapter, or by an addition to the appropriate chapters, if that can be done without repaging...Were it not for all the pressing things I'd have gone to visit you for a day when I was in Stevens Point...I don't remember the days you said you'd be in DC for the professional meeting, so please let us know as soon as you can when you might be here so we can arrange to keep those days clear and to be here. I have legal needs to attend in both Wilmington and Baltimore, appointments to make, court days to agree to or ask for, etc., so there can develop a certain amount of inflexibility. And we do want to see you...Nothing else really new except that Mary was not well when I left. It seems to have a number of origins if, as Buck and I suspect, it is not entirely physical in origin. I don't know if my presence was a burden to her. But she was very concerned about silence from Jimmy Lee when he wife required a Caesarian - but didn't, and she was also both disturbed and kept up late when Boxley decided he wanted to visit me and prove that he had been CIA. The other things he didn't do, like showing that he had a real case on the Perrin deal. In fact, he admitted it was a best a beginning and would have been a disaster if JG had used it. Instead, he professed not to know this had been the intent. I think that also upset Mary. And in the confusion that followed and the short night's sleep, she forgot to take her thyroid the next a.m. She didn't go to work the last two days I was there, so you know how she felt.

Best,

cc HR