1/2/71

Dear Bud,

That absolutely fantastic transcript of 5/16/69 arrived today. I have just read and annotated it and made a few separate notes. I am too weary to write about it in detail now but will later if you want. And, I'm somewhat handicapped by the absence of pages 4-18 which, apparently, do deal with matters that when referred to later, make no sense.

As of now, my Washington plans have been changed because I expect to have to be away the end of next week, until but not for the weekend. Unless there is a change or more bad weather, I'll be in Washington earlier, when you are away.

From my reading of this, unless what was talked about was done and done to the extent they considered and said, you may have made a rather large blunder in filing that suit. If they haven't done what they talked about, they'd have to be cracy to do it now, and it would be very much to our interest for it to be done, that is, get everything in the Archives.

Especially after reading Paul's memo, my reply to which is already set aside for you, am I impressed with the urgent need for us to stop doing things on impulse, in haste, without as much time as required for thinking and with some consultation (you and I might disagree about those who should and should not be consulted).

This ~~thing~~ thing out-Orwells Orwell. And with a court reporter present? Incredible!

There seems to have been nothing done with it. At least for the moment I hope it stays that way. Let us talk about it. And about what it involves, in time, money, manpower, politics, and you tell me then what the legalities and proprieties are. As a layman, I believe there are, after this, none left.

Remember for the future, in the event there is some need to, that I am an interested party, being one of thise mentioned (deceptively) but not named in Houghton's book. Remember also that before he went to California I knew Al Wirin, back in the 30s. At some point I should talk to him. He may be able to solve some of the problems with this stuff, if he is disposed to. He was a pretty good investigator, too, at that time, with a willingness to take direct action when he deemed it necessary (I will not enlarge upon this).

When you have time, please orient this meeting for me. At what juncture was it held, and for what <u>legal</u> purpose(s), or judicial, if any?

Thanks for sending this. Has it any sisters or brothers? Most bastards do!

Sincerely,