

6/12/69

Dear Dick,

Your note of 6/7: check.

Yesterday I did get to check with Tom's wife. He apparently has not copied the Archives pix, which is rather too long. I politely told her that your work is delayed thereby and asked if he could get to it pronto (but politely).

I guess it was two days ago.

Joan comes from a state known for its corn and hogs. That's the way he is getting. He is confronting me with a fait accompli. Some of my unpublished material that he sought, failed to get and accepted their denial on he is now pre-empting, as he can by merely expounding me. He knows I should tell him all of this in confidence, on his word he will do nothing with it. In fact, he was for the longest time actually not to have seen any of my unpublished autopsy material, that is the trust I imparted in him. Now he is trying to dig everything.

According to Bud, his suit is a mess, and I'm inclined to agree with him. In too many areas his knowledge is deficient. In too many areas he is inevitably dependant upon the work of those he is deliberately freezing out, not by choice. He knows that if he sinks we are all hurt and have to help him. That is the way it is, too.

Unconcesionable? Yes, but, aside from Gary and Paul, you are the only one I am telling. I ask all of you to say nothing.

I have no choice, and what I recommend to him. It is indeed beyond me how much to his interest, for it is the kind of thing that can swing a judge or a jury. He has been told, really, that what did exist and wasn't in the Archives wasn't there and presumably didn't exist, and I have had it for about two years.

Too bad this sort of thing has to happen.

Sincerely,