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Dear Jim,

7/25/72

~~Because~~ Because I will be away tomorrow, I write this letter in anticipation of your coming Thursday, the day after tomorrow. It is necessary to write it as it has been necessary to write so many unnecessary others like it because there is never any meaningful response to the unconscionable and inexcusable matters it addresses. I last wrote you on this July 7 and you have been without verbal or written response. I recognize, as I have told you many times, that you are in the middle on this and did not cause the original problem. But it has been what? close to two years since Bud told me he had assigned to you the job of extracting from the committee's files what he had pledged himself never to put there to begin with and to return it to me. Your explanation was that you have been too busy. That you have been busy I don't doubt, but being busy has not prevented this from being done. It is the choice of that or which you saty busy. You could, for example, have been busy on this instead of other things.

Somchow in this and related incidents with others all of whom have pledged to make no use of any kind of my work, as Bud also did, people don't keep their words and thereby in their minds and word I become, somchow, the villain. And it is, somchow, outrageous in others' mind for me to expect people to keep their word, reprehensible for me to expect the return of all copies of my work that was made available only on the condition that it not be used and be a personal thing between me and Bud. I am sure he resented my pointed explanations of why I would not join his committee, and I am sure his resentment is increased by the accuracy of my forecasts. There is nothing worse than being right, too. People resent it.

No what can't be condoned under any circumstances has been worsened by the switching into committee files of what Bud got me to give him when he was my lawyer. Is it not two years since that also was to have been returned except for what you need for the spectro suit? If it is less, it in so long it can't be excused. You knew before you returned the list to me that this was mine, and you had to know there was only one way it could have gotten into the committee's files, a very, very wrong way for lawyers. You have been silent in response to my verbal requests about this also.

As a practical matter there way be nothing I can do to keep you from making copies before returning what I provided, if you (pl) ever get around to it. I am in the position of having to depend on the honor and integrity of people who, if they had practised the obligations of honor and integrity, would never have brought this problem to pass. There is, likewise, nothing I can do to prevent you from using what I gave you <sup>(all original)</sup> by retention in the mind. You have already indicated that you have used some of my material as a means of getting other of my material of which you know in confidence and couldn't use that way. The ethics of this kind of thing ought not require any amplification.

My concern, as you know, is not alone use of what I spent so much to develop as my own literary material, a well-recognized right among honorable scholars. It is more the fear of misuse, what I not some self-uncinted expert considers misuse. The incredible garbage that has come from your people is a prime example of misuse as it is of dishonorable behavior. (In this case, as you know, I am not making this accusation against you personally and I have heard of the words you addressed to Sprague. But none of this undoes the harm done.)

If all of you people with resources have never had and without the problems and limitations I have had can't do work of this nature on your own, that does not constitute a license to use, misuse, duplicate or even have any of my work. I could not have been more explicit with Bud and he could not have been more certain in his assurances.

Now there is the added problem on which you have also been silent, Billings gave you his files. This include what he got from me in confidence and for no use, only his knowledge, much in POST HOREEM. I have described this to you. It includes interviews I arranged on Dick's word that he would not make any use without advance approval. And may I note that I have not been invoted to even look at Dick's files, despite the fact that an appreciable part of them is followup of MY work and mine ALONE? This is typical of your work at the Archives, none of which you have even informed me about. Except for one vapid boast from Bud that "We have finally gotten from the Archives something you don't have", which turned out to be something I have long had and had used in writing he had borrowed and never read! I am today particularit sensitive about such things because of the slanders of which you know aboutmy "siting" on things, my alleged "suppressions". Those who says these things have no accomplishment of their own and console themselves with these falsehoods.

If you did not cause this, you accepted the responsibility of resolving it, and if you are not going to do something a out it promptly please let me know promptly. Sincerely,