

Richard Gallen  
260 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, NY 10001

8/4/94

Dear Richard,

This requires no response. I've been told something that is deeply troubling, is certain to be hurtful and, aside from making a record of it while I can, I want you to know. My source<sup>s</sup> asked for confidentiality.

Posner has a lengthy attack on me in the coming Anchor paperback reprint. In it he was, I was told, helped by Livingstone. What each wrote about me ranges from deliberate and careful distortion to outright lies. There is no practical means of undoing such evil and the slight possibilities I might have will be diminished by my not having a copy before it is in general distribution. These slight possibilities are further diminished by the hazard to me in any travel. (Although I had planned a unique exception in order for Lil to see a major-league game. As the guests of an executive of a ballclub when it plays the Orioles. The strike will end that, as it may the planned visit by that executive, who is familiar with my work and wants to meet me.)

What Posner can do and may well have influenced Anchor is facilitated by the radically changed content of Case Open and by, if I remember correctly, you even eliminated<sup>ed</sup> my denial of what he said. You made the book into an attack on Posner. That is not what I wrote. I used Posner, as I used JAMA, as the skeleton I ~~flashed~~<sup>fleshed</sup> out into an entirely different book than you published.

There are very few things in life that are merely two-dimensional. Publishing is no exception. And as I told you, old dogs can learn new tricks. If they want to. This includes learning to communicate with people - unless we have something wrong in mind. You did what you did without a word to me. The little you said about it later is unworthy of you where it is not untrue. The untrue refers to your claim that I gave you "carte blanche" The only discussion of editing was, your words, to make the book like a lawyer's brief. That is what I wrote. That is what you eliminated.

I leave to you to tell yourself ~~as~~ as a man how you could do nothing but recuse yourself about the undiluted evil by Livingstone about a man who was your friend. And that after I told you in detail that it was false and that I had told him so in advance. After I told you what you knew without my telling you, that as a practical matter there was nothing I could do about it. His malice is clear, <sup>as</sup> is Posner's.

There is even less chance now. Because of new troubles with my legs after an auto accident I got my doctor to have Doppler<sup>is</sup> made. They show no arterial function in either leg. The wonder is that there is no sign of gangrene. If I live that long there is little prospect of my surviving their removal. And so, for the first time in my long life, there is defamation of me, in many copies. to which I have not been able to respond.

Sincerely,

Harold