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July 7, 1965

Mr. Max Wilkinson
500 Fifth Avenue
New York 36, New York

Dear Mr. Wilkinson:

Having had no direct communication with Mme. Budberg and because Sidney Kaufman is involved and is a friend of hers as he is of mine, I have written him. This is a very embarrassing situation that concerns me very much. It is the kind of thing I would never have wanted to come to pass.

Possibly you have forgotten, but when I spoke to you toward the end of May, I told you about Mr. Kaufman and that two weeks earlier he had left for the Cannes Festival, intending to give a copy of the manuscript to an agent friend (whose name I did not then recall) on my behalf. I gave you both this office and his home phones because he had expected to return to the United States about June 3. Before going to the IPA meeting in Washington, I spoke again with you, and you said it was all right as long as I spoke to no American publishers. In my letter of June 3, I repeated Mr. Kaufman's phones in the event you had not recorded them.

Your letter of June 17 and one from Mr. Kaufman were awaiting me when I returned from a brief trip, and I wrote both you and him when I learned you had sent a copy of the manuscript to your London representatives. Likewise, as soon as I heard that the manuscript was under consideration by Collins, I immediately wrote you. This letter crossed yours of July 2 (which I received on the 6th) in the mails.

As I told you, I am very pleased that you are representing me. I am delighted that you have gone to the trouble of preparing a script for production. I am deeply distressed that this situation has arisen.

Although M. Mohrt, of Gallimard, said I'd hear from him by the first of July, I have heard nothing.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg