

3/14/66

Dear Sylvia,

There is an awful clutter in my limited working area, so this may be a disjointed letter. In order to file some of the things and clean up some space let me quote you some of the more interesting language from the letter of which a very poor photocopy is enclosed. You may not be able to read it and my machine is about done.

truly
"...fascinating and completely worthwhile...valuable and in my opinion high potentially saleable book (15,000 copies anyway) but it is nonetheless not something that we wish to publish. ...not compatible with our present editorial direction. ...that can I say? I think you are a damned good writer who has written a damned good book and I sincerely wish you the best of luck with it elsewhere."

I heard Earl Collier today. He says that if they have a guaranteed sale for 2,000 copies, which they will list at \$7.50 and sell wholesale at \$4.50 (this would come to \$9,000.00). I cannot fault his arithmetic, but I have many other questions. He spoke to me of a 5,000 printing and of his belief he'd sell 2,000 copies in Texas alone. This letter does not say how many they'd print. He also said he'd print the book if he had a guarantee of their costs. This offer includes a guarantee of their profits, even if his figures are not high, and I believe they are, even for 5,000 copies. I can have a nice paperback edition printed, 10,000 copies, for more than 10% less. But he says also his cost would really be more than \$9,000.00, so I do not know what to think.

Right now I have to spend some time on our legal problems, complicated and important to us, but I wish I could afford both the time and money to go to New York for a while, for I'd like to inquire into the possibility of distribution for a privately-printed book. I have heard nothing further from Boston.

The author of the enclosed letter has a high opinion of Kamperts. When Welsh gets back from Spain, I believe I can show him a bigger bomb that he could have hoped to find, and I'm not referring to the book you've read. My researches have been even more productive than I had hoped.

Let us hope for ~~her~~ the sake of her husband's memory, if not for her own peace of mind, that Jean Stafford is sick. I did not endear myself to her publisher, from whom this same enclosed letter came, by unburdening myself to a corporate official who I once knew quite well.

Do not apologize; you have necessities. I have finally had an exchange of letters with Sauvage, and unless I misunderstood him, he is going to do nothing more with his book until some time passes. I'll keep you posted. Thanks for the trouble with the enclosed. There is no hurry with any such data you get, for I'll not be on that book for a while. It will also help me legally, but again, not immediately.

Sincerely,

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION



ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTE

LIAISON OFFICE
WITH
UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK

Dear Harold -

Forgive me for not
waiting a proper reply but I am on a
make job for the next few weeks. I copied
out the attached as we are in short
supply of the printed report - I will watch
for any thing else that
comes out on Noise.

With the compliments
of the ~~Director~~

Agnes Meagher

- ① Kamparts fully intends to go thru with
its plans; but will begin in June
instead of April. Wedel is in Spain
perhaps looking for The Bomb (?).
- ② No reply yet from the Forensic Academy
but I'll let you know if and when I
hear.
- ③ I agree re "Mother in History"
Don't intend to read it. Heard Marguerite
on one-hour radio interview yesterday

And she has surprising dignity,
logic, and skill. Stafford
has really soiled herself
with this sordid endeavor
and she pounds (on radio, too)
as if she knows it and is
picky about it.

Please don't be offended
if I don't do justice to
your letter. I will write
at greater length as soon
as time permits.

Best regards,

Sylvia