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Dear John,

This is to say thanks and to hope that when you get this you'll have had a fine Xmas. And to tell you why I say thanks again.

I've just finished the rough draft of what I've written about Tiebling and his Wedge. It is longer than Epstein's Inquest. And when I went over those chapters you sent me I saw more possibility than on initial reading. That is why it grew to this length. I think it will be a worthwhile record for our history, if nothing else, particularly on the dishonesty of publishers. Knopf, which is now Random House, knew what it was doing. There is too much that should have been picked up on ~~my~~ reading and editing that is in the book, and shouldn't be.

I have it to now read and correct and then try to get retyped. I've not heard from one of the young women ~~xx~~ who is retyping the shorter draft of one book in several weeks or the one who is retyping a very long ms. to which I'll add this in a month! I asked the college to put up a notice of typing work but no response yet I think because the end of the term was on hand when it went up. Or I hope!

There was a student here yesterday, day before, one I'm helping with her work, and she retrieved from the basement for me what I'll pick up citations from. I wrote those things from ~~my~~ memory, what he omitted from the CIA Nosenko file and the FBI's. She'll be back ~~after~~ after a week and will refile them. What a way to work, huh?

There is one more thing on this that first of all I tell you is not essential so you'll not put yourself out if you do not have the time. I go into the monopolistic trend in publishing at the beginning of this and that ~~xx~~ the Random House empire does this as job on history right after Posner's. For that it would be good to be able to add just what Random House is and owns now. I remember there was some kind of controversy there a little over a year ago. It made the papers. Perhaps that also would be interesting. Many left then, disgusted. But what I have in mind is simple if you have the time. Years ago when I used to do that kind of research there were two standard directories that had it all. One was Poor's, the other Moody's. It, they give the corporate structure and the ownership.

I also refer there to how Dell, Bantam and Doubleday, formerly competitors, are now all part of the same corporate structure, to that about Time/Warner and Penguin/Viking. Oh those if you have the time only the names of the different publishing outfits now one.

If you do not have the time, thanks anyway. This was worthwhile and you made it possible. With best wishes for the holiday season,

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