

8/13/70

Dear Gary,

To bring you up to date on the newest situation of FRAMEDUP: The King/ Ray Case, I've just been told the editing will be completed by the 24th, at the latest, that the book will be manufactured by mid October, but that it will not be scheduled for official publication until January. That is a compromise I guess I had to accept and I did. It is necessary only because they are so far behind in all their part, beginning with the word. The partner who is doing the editing went on vacation with it, he just told me by phone, only to find the rented house uninhabitable and to waste a week finding one in which they could live.

The reasons for delaying sale are good ones, like the possibility of arranging reprinting and serialization and of trying to attract book-club interest.

Their (his) opinion of the work is unchanged and they do believe they can develop collateral interests, which we share.

But, with the need for not less than \$1500 for minimum expenses between now and the first of the year, and this permitting no emergencies, had I any choice?

On another subject, I've just gone over Jim Lesar's editing and re-arranging of my complaint on the clothing/pictures and it is a first-class job. I am so satisfied with it I'm not even checking the original to see what he may have omitted. There are a few minor changes and questions about which I phoned Bud's office, but he wasn't in. If they have not phoned back by tomorrow a.m., Lil will do the retyping and it will be ready for filing. I'd like to be able to do that Monday.

If I do not get them on the phone, instead of the wide-margined, double-spaced documents lawyers prepare, we'll use single space and normal margins, for the cost of copying becomes an acute problem.

The purpose of the addendum to this complaint will be clear, I think. It is intended for the information of the judge, if he'll take the time to read it. It is separated from the complaint so he doesn't have to. I hope he'll be interested enough to read it. It makes the suit comprehensible to the press. And it should be a kind of education to the DJ lawyers who will have to work on it and to this point have known only the lies they've been told.

All recent developments point to the importance I attributed to Eardley being no exaggeration. I am convinced he is the key figure on this subject in DJ, in any administration, careful as he/they are to hide it.

Sincerely,

8/11/70

Dear Gary,

A note before I get into today's work:

And this is to go no further.

I now have the crucial frames of Muchmore more clearly than you can imagine, in 16. It is not from the Italian film, of which Jerry wrote you, where, I hope, we may be able yet to do something. It is made from a copy that seems to have been made from the original. It is clearer than the copy I snook loose from UPI in 1968 and is now in the Archives. It is even better than Z in sawing the motions at Z313 and, by accident, shows the forward motion in two frames.

I also have a 35mm print of Z which is useful and on which certain things not seen earlier are visible. And an astounding history of the original and its fate, which will have to await a face-to-face. However, I believe there was more hanky-panky than I reported in WW. and WWII.

And something else that I can't put in writing but of which, in time, you'll learn, clearer than you've ever seen it.

The Nix I'm glad to have. But because you got this originally for Dave, is it possible that you can get a print from that earlier version? I now have a friend-helper who is in a position to do remarkable things, photographically- what Patsy said he would and didn't. He has seen the Nix and thinks the work Dave had done was very amateurish, can be ever so much better.

I was able to bring him and Jerry together and got Jerry to speak to Sprague, who he will meet. He will see if he can improve on any of the pix Sprague got. Jerry and he were both here this past weekend and Jerry reported Sprague's willingness yesterday.

You know, I believe, the accidental origin of this M.

The appearance of some of my work that I had let someone have in confidence in Computers makes me unhappy all over again, for there is even less excuse this time. I've been given a copy of the new Marks vomit. Language is inadequate. And, where it is not made up of nothing, it is stolen, incompetently and irrationally. When those with whom one shares are unworthy of trust, perhaps it is better not to share. But I've had it to the point where I may do something public and repugnant in an effort to stop and more of it.

If he'd like to look at it, would you please let Gary Short have your copy of COUP? In connection with the Time stuff this week, perhaps he'd like to read beginning about p. 395.

I've finished going over the editing of about a third of COUP II. It is sterile, by a bright guy whose earlier career, I suspect, was in textbooks. He managed to escape much of the significance, but thus far I'll accept what he's done, have, and returned it yesterday, with some fatigue. They did dirty tricks with the contract, which we got closer to the first agreement by phone. I got something from them I've not had time to open and will do that when I finish this. I hope it is the contract in the form to which we agreed. I've yet to meet the honest publisher, no matter how high his political principles seem to be!

No word from Bud, on anything, though we are supposed to be in court tomorrow. It would be good to know what to take! Hurriedly,

8/8/70

Dear Gary,

Thanks for the Computer shit. Glanced at it only. In real time bind, going over editing COUP and expecting Jerry and two other friends at different times today. I am really upset (which is not good because for other reasons I've been all week) over bud's endless breaches of confidence, this time in letting Sprague, of all people, have my stuff-and after I warned him about it, having learned he'd let Turner have it also. I'll just have to stop giving him anything I do not want to get around. Especially because he is a lawyer and should know better is this bad.

Another friend sent me a copy of Marks' latest. Glance indicates it is more thievery, uncredited, natch. From his first, I'll have to await a stomach-settling before looking at it more closely.

In haste,

8/5/70

Dear Gary,

Having gotten but little exercise for more than a week because of the very high heat and humidity, accompanied by an inversion which debilitated, I went for a walk, only for Lil to have to come charging after me because a call came in from Seattle. I'm a settin and awaitin, having also brought home a baker's dozen of ears of corn picked by a neighbor while I waited, so I bring you up to date on one thing, the present publishing status of COUP, to be retitled.

What do you thing of Frame-up: the King/Ray Case?)

As sent me, the contract was not like anything we had discussed. It is never possible to discuss all provisions, so there were many not mentioned that were unacceptable and, worse of all, the royalty was inadequate and the advance but a third of what I thought we'd agreed upon.

I wrote them. They phoned me late this a.m. and, after a brief discussion, arranged to phone back late this p.m. At that time, before the presence of too many strangers on the other end, which made response inconvenient, we had worked all the questions except the last few, which should present no problem, out to my satisfaction. So, if everything turns out allright, by tomorrow late a.m. we should have agreed on all the provisions and, in about a month, I'll have the money for my next interest payment, perhaps next years payment on principle, and a little more. All of it save what Lil thinks should be set aside for regular overhead will go on my debts.

The book will be an edited-down COUP II, with some of the things, whatever they like, added from COUP I. I'll leave this entirely up to them. The first 13 chapters are edited and I have ten to go over. I've not felt up to it the few times I didn't have other pressing things. I'm just very weary. The things of which you know and others of which you do not just sap me.

Bud was not able to let me know if he'd filed the spectro suit because of a very nice thing he offered to do. I was there and overheard it. A man I do not know was in his office yesterday, apparently having been subpoenaed by a Congressional Committee. The ACLU people were unavailable. I do not know whether he and Bud knew each other and, if they didn't, what led him to Bud. But as he was leaving to look for a lawyer Bud said that if he needed or wanted someone to hold his hand today and couldn't find one and wanted him, to let him know. The guy accepted on the spot.

Unless there is something about which I feel must make an issue, I'll do whatever he wants on the spectro suit, for he says he'll take it to the Supreme Court, as he considers will be necessary. I am satisfied that on the fact the suit for the clothing is a solid one, one I should, really, win out of court once I file it, as with the Ray thing, from something I have and have reported to you. Justice cut the ground out from under Arch and Marshall. That should be ready later this week.

The guy was supposed to call back in 20 minutes. Been a long 20 minutes.

Sincerely,