

3/9/70

Dear Gary,

I've just had a call from the friend who is making me Z slides. He has made them, in 16mm, and will be getting 35mm mounts.

He tells me that the quality of the film is very bad, both ways. First of all, these copies were made on either old or cheap or poorly-kept stock, so the film itself is brittle.

He also tells me that the copy was made by a NY lab, whose identification is on it. I think he meant the copy I have. However, I put a different interpretation on this intelligence. I think that lab did it for Lemerre of LIFE, in the latter case, for JG, thus the trap a earlier feared. This is at least 7th generation, he also said, so if it is from a copy made from a JG copy, it would seem that LIFE did not make his copy from the original, which, as you know, I had suspected all along. Had they, it would have been as good as the one shown in the Archives. It isn't.

So, I'd like to get a good print, meaning both as clear as possible and on good, fresh stock, and I'd like a second for this fellow who not only wants it but has the capability of doing things with it. When you are in touch with the source of all good, would you please try and arrange?

It now looks as though what I've been planning for a while will be Wednesday.

Best,