

November 22, 1969

Dear Lee:

Thank you very much for your letter and the enclosed check. It, of course, pleases me greatly that you want to own some of my efforts.

And now, I have a tale to tell you. My Navaho show was shipped from New York on September 6, destination Oklahoma City. There were three cases -- a large one containing the photomurals made by Welcher in San Francisco and two cases containing 151 prints. Believe it or not the two cases of prints have just disappeared into thin air and no trace of them has been found. Emery Air Freight telephoned me after two weeks to file my claim, so I think they know what happened to me or they would not have done this after so short a time. However, I have not heard another word since. My lawyer is handling this and I hope I will have some news before long. My own reaction at the time was that I would never print it again. But I have recently had a telephone conversation with Mr. Wardlaw of the University of Texas Press and he feels the show is good publicity for the book. Also, I am pleased to tell you that he told me that a second edition will be underway before too long. I have been thinking of you as a possible helper if, and this is a big IF, I should undertake redoing this show. If I do, I would cut it in size considerably but even so, it is several months work. It depends on the settlement of the claim with the air freight people. If this comes through I will certainly be in a position to offer an assistant some recompense for helping me to do this over again. So, let's keep this in mind and see what the future produces.

I hope things are going well with you. Are you still teaching?

I don't know what price to put on platinum, as I am very stupid about values in the business end of photography. I am about to make a few silver prints of the early pictures, to add to a show which I now have in Colorado Springs as a substitute for the all Navaho show. Do let me hear from you and we will see what the future brings forth.

Very truly yours,

MISSILE HALL

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LEE HARKELL