

Route 4, Box 33
Santa Fe, N. M.
87501

15 February 1969

Mr. Clifford Rudden, Controller
Sierra Club
1050 Mills Tower
San Francisco, California

Dear Cliff:

There are three matters involving royalties and my contractual relationship to the Sierra Club on which I would appreciate your advice and opinion.

- 1) Since my 1969 income tax estimate must be accurate to within 80% of the amount that will be paid to avoid interest charges, I would like to have your best guess as to that amount.
- 2) Advance royalties may be off-set against either the \$10,000 loan I made the Sierra Club for the Galapagos expedition, or against accrued royalties. In either case I would like to know how soon the Club might be able to repay the loan or the balance thereof, which now is due since the Galapagos books have been published.
- 3) Ian Ballantine told me last week end that he had advanced the Sierra Club, if I understood him correctly, \$10,000 on each paperback title against royalties. Before he told me this I had understood that he had bought the rights on paperback publication for \$10,000 either for all titles or that sum for each title. According to my contracts it would make no difference to me which arrangement was made. However if the \$10,000 is an advance against royalties, it cannot, under the terms of my contracts, be considered an advance against my share of paperback royalties unless it is partly allocated to me. My understanding of the contracts is that I am entitled to royalties on all paperbacks starting with the first copy sold. The rates agreed upon, I believe, are 5% on In Wilderness, Glen Canyon, and Summer Island, and 4% on Baja California and Galapagos.

* 7/8 of 50% or 7/8 of 5% if total paperback royalties are 10%, which I assume they are.

** 35% on Baja and 40% On Galapagos

What is your understanding on these questions?

Sincerely,

Elliot Porter

cc. Diarmuid Russell