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DIARMUID RUSSELL  
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Dear Eliot:

I called Jack last Friday to see if he was ready to talk about a contract now and he said it would be towards the end of this month as they had no less than four versions of the format--I suppose this is relevant to size and number of photographs and consequently the cost. I hope Phase 2 doesn't<sup>T</sup> have to enter into their calculations on a new book--it's causing trouble on some old books which have gone out of print when the old printing has sold out and they can't reprint and sell at same price because costs have risen. I have to write Jack today about another author and will add a P.S. about a contract before end of month.

I called Sierra and that Book Club deal went through all right and I gather they expect to deliver copies to Book Club some time in February. At any rate it is all arranged.

I find Christmas and the New Year period exhausting--too many people around and too many things to do. I never really recover till April when all taxes are paid and the sun is warmer. There's one comfort so far--we have had almost no snow or icy rain and the temperature for the last three days has been 50 or over

all the best

Diarmuid