

February 12, 1957

Miss Frances Inglis
Executive Secretary
Writers Guild of America West, Inc.
8782 Sunset Boulevard
Los Angeles, California

Dear Miss Inglis:

The expansion of American motion picture production throughout Europe has carried the blacklist with it. Writers, directors, and actors abroad are now alarmed lest, by sheer weight of financial power, the American principle of blacklisting be imposed upon democratic countries in which such practices are abhorrent.

I have been asked to discuss this matter in certain non-Communist and anti-Communist publications in France and Britain. I have agreed to do so.

One of the pertinent questions is the role of the Writers Guild of America in protecting its membership against the blacklist. The writers' organizations in both Britain and France are quite militant in asserting for their membership complete freedom of opinion, and they are naturally interested in the efforts of American organizations to the same end.

I therefore request that you send me such information as you consider relevant to the Guild's fight against the blacklist. I should like copies of all resolutions which touch upon the Guild's attitude toward members who invoke the Constitution of the United States before the courts or committees of the Congress. I should also like the exact wording of the Guild's agreement with the Producers' Association which permits the producers, by omission, to assert that the author of material is not the author. I feel this agreement may be unique not only in the history of literature but also of writers' organizations, and I shouldn't wish to quote it incorrectly.

If you have any material on regulations enacted by the Guild since the promulgation of the blacklist in 1947, which would

have the effect, if not the purpose, of increasing the difficulties of blacklisted writers to market their work in films, I would appreciate that also. In fact, a copy of the code which governs writers in their relations with each other and with their employers, together with the date on which each section of the code was enacted, would be most helpful.

I shall correctly quote such statements, resolutions, agreements, and working rules in my article. If they are not made available to me, I shall make note of that fact in my piece, and deal with the matter as I understand it.

Sincerely,