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May 6, 1966

Mr. John A. Hannah  
 President  
 Michigan State University  
 East Lansing, Michigan

Dear John:

I have read over carefully your statement on the Ramparts article business and want to write immediately to say what a splendid job I think you have done. Congratulations on having taken a forthright, statesmanlike position in response to the really vicious attack that was leveled at the University. It is opportune that your statement is coming out now (and I am glad to see that Dick Humphrey's Bulletin in Washington is reproducing it in full) because there is always such a difficult job of making the facts catch up with this kind of McCarthyite distortion.

Quite frankly, I am watching for The New York Times to print your statement in full, but I suppose that now they are not going to do so. I consider this strongly bordering on the irresponsible because of the sense almost of malicious glee with which The Times picked up the Ramparts business and gave it a good run day after day. (One of my friends has speculated that the Ramparts article may have come along at just the right moment for The Times because it was a beautiful buildup for their five-article series on the CIA -- which of course must have been in preparation for some time. If that is true, it diminishes appreciably my own respect for that paper.)

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May 6, 1966

I am sorry that our inability to assemble enough members caused the postponement of the meeting of our Committee on University International Programs which had been scheduled for East Lansing on April 29th, about which I had been in touch with you earlier. It turned out that with so many of the members of this group being regularly involved in international travel anyhow, the date we had picked simply was one of minimal possibilities and we would have ended up with only four or five out of the total membership of about fifteen. We will want to have a raincheck, if we may, on Ralph's invitation to hold one of these meetings at Michigan State and perhaps the fall would be the best time to lay it on again.

I hope by this time, with your excellent statement now out and circulated, the whole Ramparts business will not be deflecting you too much from your many more important responsibilities.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,



William W. Marvel  
President

WWM:tc

Rampart

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May 12, 1966

Dear Bill:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of May 6.

It is appreciated.

Sincerely,

President

President William W. Marvel  
Education and World Affairs  
522 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10036

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