

July 14

ARCHIBALD MacLEISH UPHILL FARM CONWAY, MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Rex:

Yours of the 12<sup>th</sup>.

It must be the hot weather working on my addled wits but I don't understand.

Suppose the situation were reversed (in every sense) and Bill Buckley wanted to start a clerical-fascist review in N.Y. Suppose the liberals of Madrid wrote in praising our constitution and supporting the proposal as a means of fostering the interplay of a wide range of opinions. Would their views be helpful? Would they even be taken seriously? Obviously you have ends in view which I am too sun-sodden to see. Illuminate me!

Yours

Archibald

July 19 1966

Dear Archie:

Surely you are pulling my leg. If Bill Buckley "wanted to start a clerical-fascist review in New York" the literati of Madrid wouldn't have to write to President Johnson asking him to permit its publication, nor would anyone. Of course that's the point. I think it is desirable and necessary for Americans, especially American writers, not only to guard freedom of expression here, but also to advocate it in countries where it doesn't exist - including Spain.

Yours.....