

December 18, 1963

Mr. Roy Feuchter,  
Mr. J. T. Radel  
Forest Service  
Bishop, Cal.

Dear Sirs:

My friend Mr. Paul Perella has advised me of his recent conversations with you gentlemen, and also with Mr. Casad, in regard to our retreat building located in Tuttle Canyon. He says you would like to have a written statement from me, substantiating my willingness to abandon all rights to this property and giving it over to the U.S. Government.

I herewith so state, affirming that I do not now entertain any plan of appealing the decision appearing in the letter to me dated December 11, 1963, from Mr. Chas. A. Connaughton, Regional Forester. I accept this decision, but only with the understanding that the building itself not be destroyed. My group who were associated with me and my late wife in building this place over a period of some twenty years relinquishes any claim to exclusive use of the building or premises and agrees to maintain it in presentable condition, as stated in Mr. Perella's accompanying letter. We do hope, however, that we will be allowed to visit the site occasionally, perhaps to engage in philosophical discussions in this beautiful and peaceful place, provided we do it no harm and interfere in no way with the rules of the Forest Service.

Of course, I would be guilty of insincerity were I to say that I feel no sense of loss in abandoning this property, which has meant so much to many people throughout the years. Although it has fallen into disuse since the death of my wife, I had planned for it to be repaired and reactivated, and towards this end have invested the funds of our Society, and my own, in the property we presently occupy down-canyon from the site. But we cannot fight progress, and have no wish to oppose the good intent of the Wilderness Area, the spirit of which is so much akin to our own outlook, and to the purpose for which we used, and would use our retreat building.

I thank you most sincerely for anything you can do towards the preservation of this structure. Through the years of its building we had thought it would always be allowed to stand; to this end we paid the fees and did our best to observe the rules. Evidently, because of the changes and circumstances brought by time, we failed to comply with the letter of the law, and we must accept the consequences. We only ask that this result of our long labor, and with it the symbolic heart of our small but sincere group of students, not be destroyed.

Yours very truly,

Franklin F. Wolff  
Box 559  
Lone Pine, Cal.

*(Signed for you)*  
*-P.F.*  
*(Your actual signature)*  
*"faked" due to lack*  
*A time Please Won't*  
*forget do it my*  
*checks*  
*-Paul*