

September 30, 1967

Dear Ratti,

One of the sins for which I'll ask God forgiveness the coming holiday is belated expressions of gratitude. But I'm genuinely grateful to you for your letter of July 5, in which you freed me of forwarding your recommendation for my fellowship application, extended your invitation to our daughter to visit with you, pay very nice things about Ruth's article (and mine), and top it all off with some delectable anecdotes concerning the deletion by the U O J C of the U from U-Thant's name - and your petition to internationalize Rome. A letter which combines statements of favors done, promises of future hospitality, gracious compliments, and congenial facetiousness is not common correspondence these days - but then a very uncommon Ratti, gentleman, and scholar (isn't the ideal Ratti really one who combines all three elements?) authored it.

Speaking of authorship, the last article of
yours in Tradition really had an impact on
Ruth and me. We've discussed its implications
at length already - and are by no means
finished - so your influence here is still
pervasive - even though physically you are
distant from us. I've also bought a copy
of The Tradition book - and sent it to
Ben Elbermann. No use monopolizing
treasures of the spirit.

We certainly hope to visit with you and
Mindy when we go to N.Y. to see Ellen (she's
told us she already has the pleasure of
seeing you and having you the first
Friday night at Barnard!). In
the meantime, our very best to
you, Mindy, and your family.
Again, my deep appreciation.

Cordially,
Milton