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28 June 1999

Mr Henry P. Mills, Director
The Walker Percy Project
PO. Box 3561
Austin, TX 78764

Dear Henry:

As a research librarian and story ideas developer for National Public Radio, I am pleased to share that I have met with Murray Horwitz, Vice-President of Cultural Programming for NPR, and he has expressed interest in the Walker Percy Project's plans for a CD-ROM audio documentary and radio broadcast. We discussed that the documentary would feature readings, dramatic performances by professional actors, original Percy interviews and talks, as well as interviews with Percy's family, friends, associates, and scholars.

National Public Radio is in a position to recommend audio project professionals (engineers, editors, directors) to provide expertise in creating the documentary as well as with production needs such as access to studio time. NPR could also help in providing content for the Percy documentary, as we have several recordings of Percy interviews in our broadcast collections. As a board member of the Percy Project, I am certainly willing to assist with the Percy audio documentary in any capacity that I can, and in particular believe that I can help suggest an appropriate distributor for the final product.

As an ardent Percyite and a scholar of 20th century Southern writers, I have a personal interest in seeing an audio documentary of Percy's life and work come to fruition. In fact, my desire is that the Percy documentary would be one of many in a Southern writers documentary series produced by national Public Radio featuring interviews with the writers, readings, and commentaries.

Again, I am pleased that NPR's Cultural Programming Division is indeed in providing professional support to the Walker Percy Project's planned CD-ROM audio documentary on Walker Percy. What we need to work on is raising the funds which will enable NPR to assist the Project with its plans.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alphonse".

Alphonse Vinh
National Public Radio