September 10, 1984

Mr. Henry W. Flagg, Jr. Chief Counsel NASA Johnson Space Center Houston, Texas

Dear Hank:

Some statements you made the other day have been on my mind and were quite disturbing. When I asked for your advice concerning some travel regulations, you warned against possible violations of regulations. This seemed strange to me because I have been relying on your counselling in that regard.

I have repeatedly told you that I have never wanted even a suggestion of impropriety, to the extent of giving up any or all activities that would even suggest such. My only outside activity is the NASA approved consulting arrangement and as repeatedly stated, I woll terminate this if it raises any questions.

My dilemma comes about because I do not know what you were referring to and whether you question any activity of mine. It has been and remains my firm desire not only to avoid any conflict but to stay away from any hint of it. I stand ready, as always, to comply with any and all regulations and I intend to follow your advice on such matters.

I would appreciate the opportunity of discussing this further.

Sincerely,

William E. Thornton NASA Astronaut

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PROPOSED LETTER

Mr. Henry W. Flagg, Jr. Chief Counsel NASA Johnson Space Center Houston, Texas 77058

Dear Hank:

Some statements you made the other day have been on my mind and were quite disturbing. When I asked for your advice concerning some travel regulations, you warned against possible violations of regulations. This seemed strange to me because I have been relying on your counselling in that regard.

I have repeatedly told you that I have never wanted even a suggestion of impropriety. Having a written approval by NASA to act as a consultant to AVIONICS. I naturally assume that is no problem. Likewise, with a waiver and positive determination as to 18USC208, there should be no problem there.

My dilemma comes about because I do not know what you were referring to and whether you question any activity of mine. It has been and remains my firm desire not only to avoid any conflict but to stay away from any hint of it. stand ready, as always, to comply with any and all regulations and I intend to follow your advice on such matters, as Chief Counsel to NASA.

WILLAIM E. THORNTON
NASA Astronaust

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