

copy: J. A. Cassin
Clyde Walton

RECEIVED FEB 18 1966

14 February 1966

*noted
John Carter*

Dear Mr Ehrhart:

In reply to your inquiry of December 8, concerning Record Safe, Model No. 3441 B1, Serial No. 16095-5, which was loaned to the State of Illinois for the storage and exhibit of the Gettysburg Address, this safe is now at the Illinois State Historical Library, Centennial Building, Springfield, Illinois, where it continues to be used for the exhibition of the original manuscript of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

Sincerely yours,

Ralph G. Newman
Chairman

Mr H. J. Ehrhart
Manager, Internal Audits
The Mosler Safe Company
Hamilton, Ohio 45012

Sincerely,

The Mosler Safe Company

W. J. [unclear]

[unclear]

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Task

2 March 1966

Dear Mr Belasco:

In reply to your letter of 24 February, I am sorry that I evidently misunderstood the conditions under which the Mosler safe was loaned to us. I should have checked the matter with Mr Cassin.

At the time our equipment was removed from the Fair, since most of the material relating to our manuscript collection and Lincoln rarities was sent to the Illinois State Historical Library and Society, the safe was packed and sent along. Mr Cassin, incidentally, was in the Far East at the time the pick-up was made, and so was not present to correct this obvious error.

I had been under the impression that this was to be a long-time loan, for the purpose of suitably displaying the Gettysburg Address, both at the World's Fair and the Historical Library. The collection of Lincolniana in the Illinois State Historical Library is the largest in the world. It is soon to be moved to the restored original Springfield capitol, the building in which Mr Lincoln served as a member of the Legislature.

More than a million persons visit the Lincoln shrines in Springfield every year, and it might be to your advantage to have the safe continue to display the Gettysburg Address, so that you may properly take credit for it. The fact that one of the world's most valuable documents in one of the world's greatest collections is protected by a Mosler product is certainly something that may be of value to you. Neither the Illinois State Historical Society nor the Library would have any objection to you making this fact known in the course of your advertising and public relations.

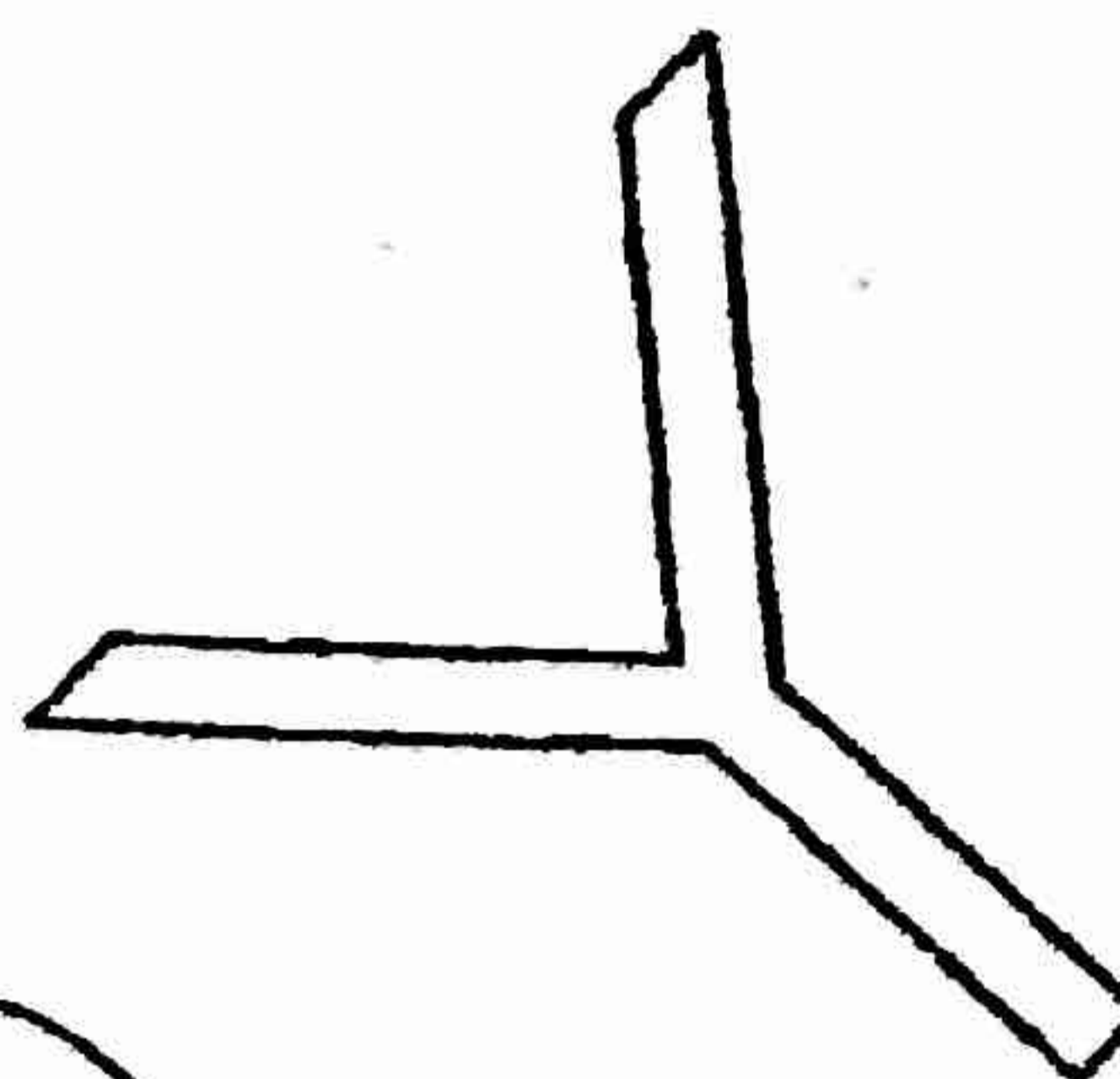
If this is not practical we will, of course, make arrangements to have the safe returned to you. Or, possibly, I could make arrangements to have it purchased on behalf of the State by some private individual or individuals who would make it a contribution to the State.

Yours very truly,

Ralph G. Newman

Mr Arnold Belasco
Director of Advertising & Public Relations
The Mosler Safe Company
Hamilton, Ohio

RGN:fhw



C O R P