

ROBERT M. MACGREGOR
Founder

GEORGE ZOURNAS
Director

ROSAMOND GILDER
Consultant

Theatre Arts Books

153 WAVERLY PLACE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10014

OREGON 5-1815

11 September 1982

Mr. Jack Clareman
122 East 61st Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Clareman:

Re: The Zen Studies Society, Inc.

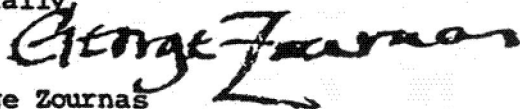
I was outraged, but not really surprised, to learn from Mrs. Peggy Crawford of Mr. Eido Tai Shimano's brazen attempt to remove her from the Board of Trustees of the Zen Studies Society just before its annual meeting on September 14th, a meeting at which Mr. Shimano's leadership of the Society will be called into question. Mrs. Crawford has been a devoted member of the Society for many years. She has poured tens of thousands of dollars into its work and, with good heart, worked long and hard for the two zendos. When she told me of Mr. Shimano's maneuver, I advised her to call you to see if it was within his power to remove her. I am glad that you were able to tell her he has no such right.

For the last several years, as President of the Board of Trustees of the Zen Studies Society, I have watched Mr. Shimano's actions with growing dismay. His irresponsible attempt to dismember the Zen Studies Society in the spring of 1981 fortunately was stopped - largely with the support of your expert advice. As you know, Mr. Shimano is now being accused by Mrs. Robin Westen of attempting to seduce her in the New York Zendo. Sylvan Bush told me that at their first meeting with you, he and Mr. Shimano had not told you that this was but the most recent of a long series of such "seductions" which have plagued the Society for many, many years. On learning this, I insisted that Mr. Busch tell you of the true state of things; I trust that that was done.

On July 31st of this year, I sent a letter to Mr. Shimano and the other members of the Board of Trustees resigning my Presidency of the Society and my membership in it. At that time I thought it was best to leave quietly, so my letter put forward the demands of my small business as the reason for my resignation. I did not want to make a big thing of the resignation, so I did not send you a copy. But, because I wanted to be sure that you knew of the resignation, I asked Sylvan Busch to tell you about it. I was disappointed, and - I must admit - more than a little angered, to learn that he had not done so. I am, therefore, writing to you now to ask that this letter be placed with your other documents concerning the Society.

When I became President of the Society, in order to utilize his long experience and devotion to the Society, I asked Mr. Shimano to delegate to Mr. Busch certain of the duties of the President. One of them was being our liaison with you. Because you and Mr. Busch had been friends and worked together so well for such a long time, I was happy to do this. My only regret is that I was not able to get to know you. I hope that one day we will meet under happier conditions.

Cordially,



George Zournas

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
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