

June 23, 1971

Dearest Sylvia:

I was actually stunned to read your letter about Allegra's death... I knew you were terribly worried about her, but I somehow thought she would perk up and become her old self. It's so hard to believe that she won't be hiding behind furniture or in a closet to keep out of her box when you are ready to go "visiting"... I do think you did exactly the right thing by acquiring Mimi. Please write and describe her to me-- what color? what kind? Please put her in the travelling box about once a week and walk around the house and when you take her out give her some liver or a "goodie" so she'll look forward to getting into the box. In another ten years, you and I will be too old to be chasing kittens around a hotel room and I do expect Mimi to be visiting with us many times during the next ten years...

You didn't tell me how Allegra died. Was she at the vet's? Was she at home? etc???

I have been "HAUNTING" the magazine stands trying to acquire Tom Bethell's article in the Nation. They still have the May 17 issue on the stands. I have sent in my subscription but it hasn't started yet. If you have the time, please xerox me a copy of Tom's article. And, when is your article going to appear? And, has Fred Cook's article appeared yet? I have Cook's new book on the McCarthy era. Very good! I like his writing.

We put the grandchildren on a plane last Thursday night to join Carol Anne in Kansas City. Carol Anne moved up there the first of this month but the babies stayed with Larry and Bobbie. We all hated to see them go. They have never been more than four blocks from me in their lives.

Buck is still in the hospital in Memphis. They are going to move him to another hospital the last of this month and operate on him for a hernia. They were to do it the middle of this month but his blood pressure was too high. He called me Monday night and seems to be feeling fine...

Bud Fensterwald is supposed to be in Dallas the first of July. Gary Shaw, the architect from Cleburne, Texas (you met him with Penn Jones at my home last year) has located the "babuska lady" and Bud is coming down to interview her. It really should be interesting. I'll let you know what we find out.

Give my love to little Mimi and keep plenty for yourself...

Mary