

4/7/72
Tues. 6 P.M.

Dear Sylvia:

I stopped by, to see about your phonograph, but the turntable noise you mentioned was not performing just now. I did, of course, notice the hum, still: you will notice that this is worst when the pickup is on its rest; somewhat better, when it is beginning the record; & sinks quite considerably, as the arm approaches the centre. This is because it is caused by the effect of the power transformer (which is just the other side of the thin wooden dividing wall, the way things are set up now) ..

on the magnets of the pickup head: the closer to the wall the pickup is, the more hum it "picks up" (by induction.) This could be eliminated by some kind (I'm not sure just what) of grounding, or shielding—don't feel inclined to experiment with it, tonight—maybe I will, sometime.

Our tribe turns out, as I suspected, to have decamped, taking the colour TV, & a few less important things, with them by way of souvenirs. (I cannot say I am surprised by this development.)

lex.

P.S. As to the hum—it now occurs to me that, perhaps, it could be cured by turning the receiver unit around (end-for-end)—this I have not tried.