

Thursday, Aug. 6th

Dear Sylvia,

Now that we're well established in a swell little house in the suburbs of Copenhagen I thought I'd best make good on my promise to be a better correspondent than in the past. Then too, I'd like to hear how your Boston summer turned out.

We returned here on July 15th after a tour of about 18 days through Germany and Switzerland. We stayed over night in Tübingen and noted a great number of strike signs and extra police on duty. Many of the slogans seemed more appropriate for American universities than for the European counterpart. For example, the slogan: "Beware 'value-free' social science!" doesn't really have much relevance to the European model of the social sciences with its background of Geisteswissenschaft but would apply directly to the American model. I suspect that what's happening is that the student movement in Europe appears to ape the American model because what seems a more obvious and easy target for the European radical is the Americanization of various parts of European life. Hell, even De Gaulle was against that. Switzerland was quite expensive, dramatically beautiful, but finally rather dull. Denmark is beautiful (this has been the best summer since 1952) quiet, and a welcome relief from America's charged atmosphere. Last week I was walking near one of the canals in Copenhagen and noted a small vignette that makes a lot clear. Two hippies were stretched out on the sidewalk near where the tourists board the boats for the tour of the harbor. Two Danish policemen appeared and began talking to the hippies -- still stretched out on the sidewalk. I naturally expected the American finale to this little drama :: police get more and more annoyed, finally hustle off the hippies, either with or without blows :: and was surprised to see the police walk off unconcerned after a few moments chat. Peoples expectations are different here; the space in which people live and work seems uncharged in relation to America. A very welcome relief which I'm using to get back into philosophy with a great deal of enjoyment. Currently reading Sartre's The Transcendence of the Ego and finding it fascinating.

Two notes from Bernabei were forwarded to me from Haverford. They contain the rather interesting fact that he knew all along that the "Philadelphia resident" was not me but a high school junior by the name of Harold Roffman. He has corresponded with Roffman and Roffman says he had talked with me. From Roffman's letter Bernabei surmises that Roffman never told me about the cartridge cases because "he is preparing some analyses which he wishes to treat confidential." I must say I find all this highly curious. Roffman and his father came out to my office once in the spring of 1968. He's very much a sort of quiz-kid type and had something written in

the paper about his hobby of studying the JFK assassination. He's apparently trying to prove that the Warren Commission was right all along -- Lee Harvey did it all by himself with three shots: one in JFK at z187, another in Connally at z227, and the final z313. At that time he had no defense against the obvious objections to such a view, and I was respectful to him (as one is, of course, to a quizkid) but discounted what he was doing. Since then he's written me a couple of times asking where to get certain photos -- Altgens, Moorman, etc. -- and I've always obliged with the requested information. I find it curious as hell that he never mentioned finding the cartridge case. Why not? If he did find it, it was the only find of any significance he ever made. And he certainly wasn't very secretive about his work when I met him in the spring of 1968. The bitchy part of this little tangle is that I have my suspicions but probably will never be able to prove anything. Haven't heard anything from Marion Johnson in response to my query.

No more room. Hope you're having a reasonably good summer.

Affectionately,

Tim

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