

10/14/71

Dear Sylvia,

I suppose if we were not people of passion we could not have undertaken what we have. In my own case, I am aware that I work with too great an intensity, that my nerves are not in good shape, that I work when I'm too tired and I may sometimes say things that while true perhaps ought not be said. But I do not consciously say what is not factually correct. If I have monopoly on neither being right nor wrong, my recollections of my correspondence with Cyril is as I reflected it to you. I can't pretend to be certain of the explanation. I've thought about it and the one thing that seems to make sense is what I told it. It is the one thing that seems to be consistent with what seems a strange record, one entirely inconsistent with him as I have thought of him as it is with how I have felt about him.

In fairness to you, I feel I should send you a sample of what I discussed. To serve this purpose - have copied his last letter to me, the one to which it was supposedly in response, and the top part of my response, ^{of} which is on the reverse side of his.

You will note that on 8/21 I reminded him I had not yet gotten the technical data and what I think you can understand is a reminder, gentle, that he had not returned my call.

I have checked my calendar, and prior to the date of his letter for that entire month I was away but once, on the 18th, when I went to Washington. I was otherwise away no longer than to take my wife shopping in the morning, generally early, or in the evening if I had to go to the post office. I am not saying he didn't call, but he couldn't have tried hard and he didn't send the stuff or a note.

It is now a month and two days since I replied. I said what I told you I said. I didn't use a second sheet of to-me precious paper for the balance of my 9/12 because the beginning says what I said, as you will see.

You will find the rest of the correspondence file as I represented it to you. If I have no comforting interpretation, I am confident of the fact, and I represented it to you as it is. Neither of use time or need to copy further back, but if you have any reason to want me to, I will.

This requires no answer. As with my call, it is for your information only.

Sincerely,

