

12/27/71

Dear Harold,

Thanks for your two recent letters. I had a phone call from Mary Ferrell on the 25th from the airport where she was between planes en route to Germany. She had had bronchial pneumonia and still had a very bad cough and was on antibiotics. I do hope that she will not over-do and give herself a chance to recover.

A stranger had sent me a news article on Salandria's speech, asking for my opinion of it. I took the trouble to write him my strongly negative views on Salandria's dangerous distortions and exaggerations and received back for my pains a veritable lecture on the evil of the Government and the virtue of Salandria, together with a copy of the original speech in extenso. On reading that, I encountered for the first time Salandria's charge that Soviet intelligence was in collusion with the CIA, which is not only inherently bizarre and mischievous but is wholly unsupported by anything resembling evidence.

For that reason I was especially interested in reading your commentary of 12/22/71. But, as you say, it is such a poor carbon that I literally was unable to read it. Could you possibly send me a more legible copy which I will in turn xerox and return to you?

I hope that you will enjoy the forthcoming visits from Howard and the others and that the New Year will be healthy, happy and successful in every way.

As ever,