

Mrs. Maggie Fields
905 Deep Canyon Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

6/15/97

Dear Maggie,

It was a surprise hearing from Ray Marcus, from whom I'd not heard in several years. Then it was an added surprise when he mentioned your name. Last I'd heard you'd moved to ~~France~~ ^{France}. It was, of course, so sad when he told me why he was calling, about your health and the seriousness of the problems you face.

I hope you can have the luck I've had in that area. I've been given up four times in the last 20 years and while I'm feeble I'm still here. And working every day, even when I have to keep my left leg high so the foot is higher than the heart, as it is now.

I had not known about Joe until I asked Ray. I've not heard from or about that fine person Bill O'Connell since the last time I was out there. I remember that I left LA the day Nixon was inflicted on us. Often I wanted to be able to get back but first I could not afford it and then my work had taken a different direction and I'd lost contact with most of those I'd known who survived. (If I had returned I was to do an in-depth oral history with one of JFK's woman friends whose guest I was that trip, in the Bay area.)

While I will not take time for it now, I do report that my work, which has taken this other direction, is at least as voluminous as what has been published but having no prospects of publication is intended as a record for history.

Aside from what I'd gone through earlier, including six surgeries, in the past year I was hospitalized twice for congestive heart failure renal failure and more. The second time the local hospital did not expect me to survive the ambulance trip to Johns Hopkins, in Baltimore. It and the other things I do not go into are serious problems that do not easily leave the mind. While I've been very fortunate to have no real pain with any of this, I think perhaps I have some glimmer of how you feel and what it means to live this way. Especially when there is nothing we can do about it. Even what we can hope for is limited. But I do hope that for you it is as easy, as painless as it can be.

Much has happened that is little understood, much is said by those who do not know as much as they think they do if they are in contact with fact, with reality at all, as most are not. Most do not understand the official evidence and almost none have undertaken to learn what it is, says and means. In addition to what was known I sued and got more than a quarter of a million pages. I assure you, dear Maggie, that I was about as accurate as is possible, was honest and did not lie, and that much of what is published misleads and misinforms....I do hope, very much, that what remains for you is as good and as lacking in discomforts as it possible.

With the best possible wishes,

Arthur Wesley