

Dear Cathy,

4/10/97

After reading your letter of the 7th I just sat and thought. With what your Griselda of a mother went through ^{earlier} what happened to her is what I'd not have expected. But knowing nothing about such matters, I suppose the past can have that kind of influence. In any event, she is one of the finest human beings I met and we both hope that she continues to do well-for a long time!

Time is on our minds more than usual right now. I've just had my 84th birthday and there is the most surprising flow of kind card from total strangers, people I'd never heard of. I suppose some of those interested in the assassinations told others. and in eight days Lil has her birthday.

The years have not been easy but they have been kind to me because I'm still here and can function. If I had a bit more energy I'd ^{like} ~~file~~ a FOIA lawsuit against O'Brien, who lied to me and I have the proof. ~~But~~ But a year ago I had congestive heart failure with many complications, was discharged by the local hospital after two weeks, and then had it all over again. That time the expert called in by my cardiologist rushed me to Johns Hopkins. I was there more than three weeks. When I saw this local pulmonary expert three weeks ago he told me he'd not expected to see me ^{live} again. So, with a list of nine serious medical problems, including renal insufficiency and for the first time ~~in~~ in my long life high, ~~really~~ really high blood pressure on the Johns Hopkins report to him, I'm lucky.

Lil is still making out without the hip replacement she'll at some point need.

There is not much you can do ^{about} ~~about~~ the FBI unless you can take them to court and ~~when~~ they do have a backlog you have to have a reason for not waiting for them to reach you. I have that but given the choice between continuing working with the energy that remains or taking time for that, I work. I'll be leaving many manuscripts that will be important in our history. As I can I'm getting them retyped on computers and distribute disks among my educator friends.

Sorry John's situation is no better and, of course, we are sorry that all this extra burden falls on you. But /you'll do it and make it.

Please give your mother our wishes for a full recovery and many good years with no troubles and two beautiful granddaughters to make her happy.

Our love,

Heidi

*Larry M's got
lost on my
desk*