Aug. 21, 1971

Dear Hal,

Thanks for your last letter. The gossip about Potter was interesting. Most people do not die of skin cancer. In terms of that unusual note Harold got, my professional skills do not tell me anymore than anyone else's judgment--even if it is a put on, the guy may be a nut (you have to generally be nutty to act nutty once the act gets beyond a certain point). I doubt that it is a threat or that the guy is dangerous, but it is hard to understand such things in any reasonable terms.

I have no idea who that guy is in the Penn Jones piece. I have never seen the picture before. The guy is not necessarily under arrest. I doubt that it isthe long-gone Jack Beers photo of which I wrote in 1967 which was destroyed but allegedly showed a guy being brought out of the TSBD under arrest.

The Russian piece sounds interesting . I will try to get a copy.

What I am up to lately is gone through in my letter to Harold which is enclosed.

If you go down to see the Newcombs and are interested, you might ask to read the manuscript of Tom Bethell's book on Garrison. It is clearly not secret based on my hearing about it from a Jazz person I recently met here.

I wrote Joel Forte about the Drug Symposium he advertised for early in November, but have heard nothing. I suspect that it will not come off. If itdoes, however, I may get to SF again. I still owe some people# there letters, so I'd better get them off before I come again.

Well, I'd bett er close. Best wishes.

Gary