1/2/71

Dear Gary,

This has been a disturbing day and I'm weary and more than usually forgetful. If you get an envelope like this one from me and it is empty, the fault is mine. I wanted to send you what I wrote Paul airmail, as I sent it to him, and I had those old, small envelopes I wanted to use up, so I intended switching what I had in the larger envelope to the smaller one. I now can't find the larger one, so maybe I mailed it empty.

Please feel free to express and explain any disagreement you may have to what I wrote Paul. There are, without doubt, ample grounds for questioning the manner of my writing, but I'm past the point of lily-gilding and, drained as I feel, had I made the effort I'd probably have said less. In order to get home before the melted snow froze, I had to mail it without reading.

Daily I become more and more impressed with the notion that if the government spends any considerable effort on us, they are nuts. We elimate the need for it.

If it is out of character for me to try and be a hermit, daily the arguments for trying to change my character become more persuasive. I've just got to stop putting in so much time on what is a waste, from the record, and spend it writing and doing other things that can serve a constructive purpose. I guess I should realize that I just can't protect us from all of us and let what may happen just go ahead and happen.

Hope that whatever you did when you were away was relaxing, rewarding and, if this is not enough, also pleasant.

Best regards,