

9/13/71

Dear Js,

Mailing 9 here. Sorry message I had NYT Denver Piece Joel Kaplan didn't get to you in time. Would you like it back? Some of those names interesting.

Appointment internal-inspection chief to No. 3 FBI spot seems to indicate continuation of central obsession, self-preservation and complete, internal control. This really means Felt is now No. 2 because Tolson has long been ill and feeble.

The one Herbert Clip I sent you was enough for my purposes, thanks for those I'm returning.

I never realized heat got to be such a problem in the Bay area. It is, infrequently, here. It gets real hot, but we are in the country, in the open, and only when there is no breeze at all do the beautiful trees block the breeze. This house had a couple of old air conditioners in it when we bought it. I have since been given another ~~small~~ one that I've temporarily installed in my office, which is set off from the rest of the house and didn't benefit from the other air conditioners, and, although they make objectionable noise, we wouldn't be without them the dozen or so times a year we turn them on. If you for some reason do not want to air condition, there are quieter room devices that work on some kind of evaporative system you should consider and investigate before next year. It must be terrible for both of you! We never had air conditioning before.

Ours is a Thermopane house. That is, windows do not open. Original ventilation was by slotted, screened louvered openings under the Thermopane. It is here that the air conditioners are. And while the circulating-air heat we have is terrible on the nose in the winter- we can't get enough humidity to prevent drying- I turn the blower only on in the summer and it circulates the air-conditioned air through the entire house, which is pretty good and we are never really uncomfortable. Lil, who never used ~~it~~ to, is beginning to feel the heat. I go around almost naked-almost anywhere, too, and no longer have the summer heat rashes I used to have, lost an "incurable" fungus infection of a toe-nail (who ever heard of such a thing! but my doctor had the same thing) and, in general, not working for AP and having to go into the city often, recommend the nature-boy role. Even at my age. I go to DC that way, depending on where I have to go. But it doesn't keep me out of the National Press Building or the Capital. It has taken some doing to get Lil to compromise with this attitude, to go part of the way herself, but gradually she has begun to walk this path. Of course, this society and its hangups restrain women more than men, as do the customs and indoctrinations, but if you can't bring yourself to get and wear loose-fitting shorts and whatever you can over a bra-and as little as you can, at least at home, and if Jim hasn't any shorts, for his sake and yours take his oldest peat of pants and cut them off above the knees. Unless he has very thin legs, don't buy the new style in walking shorts, for they are constricting, do not permit free air circulation. Get some permanent-press work pants and cut them off. Use a oinking shears and it restricts travelling. I've been doing it for years- since long before the kids made a style of it. And our generation of men is hung up on underwear. Not at home when it is hot. When I have to wear a shirt, and when I do not have to make a good appearance, it is the oldest and thinnest I have. You know, it is not only the discomfort. The older we get the more oppressive and hard on the ticker that kind of heat fatigue is. I hope you do something before another summer! It is now possible to air condition a house with a central unit for less than \$1000, and that can be almost completely silent (inside). The unit is outside.

Lil has studied your fascinating... At this point my car came back from a front-end job and I spoke to Lil to be certain I understood her hasty comment when I came in with the mail this a.m. She likes that character and says it will be much easier to do than the peace symbol. She understands your preference to be the proper substitutions in name and the character for the symbol. If this is not correct, please let her know, for it doesn't make any difference to her, she wants those who will have it to have what they'd prefer. If this is correct and you'd like something else with the peace symbol, she'll be glad to do that. Working that out took some doing. From what she says, hinese is easier than peace (thoughts of nonchairman Hal). And by the way, I had nothing to do with the blanket she made for the friend's child. It was 100% Lil's idea, 100% her design, etc. She does enjoy knitting and it means more to her if she is not just knitting but doing something she thinks will make someone she wants to be happier just a bit happier. It is not femininity but something she inherits, it being characteristic of her family, that makes her feel uneasy if I

mention anything about her various afflictions, of which I am perhaps worst. But she is a bit arthritic, and the knitting is very good for her hands and fingers. Sometimes crocheting, which she also enjoys, is a bit uncomfortable. But she does that, too, when she wants to. And feels able to. I'm surprised not to have gotten a reaction to your reference to glaucoma. I don't understand why, but she just doesn't want people to know about it. She comes from old country stock, of whom, going back to before the Revolution, she is possibly the first to go to and stay in the Big City. For years when we lived near her mother, it took major diplomacy for me to get her into my car so I could drive her to her doctor. When we had an idea of whatever the complaint might have been, while I was driving na there, Lil would phone the doc and give him the clues. Otherwise, it was Lil's ma's notion that it is up to the doctor, not her, to learn what she went there for. Unbelievable, but sadly true. She had an accident that would have killed most younger people (a blessing to everyone else on the road for she never was a safe driver). It wrecked her car, but at 80 she came out without a break. What the doctors could see they could treat. She never told them it had the effect of blocking her left nostril and we didn't learn except by accident, after she was home again. It ain't all those up-Jersey hillbillies whp used to sew themselves inside their long johns for the winter, after coating with goose-grease!. Some of it persists.

Anyway, Lil is looking forward to this. I'm sure she ll be getting the wool soon, before she finishes what she is working on, thinks the colors will work out well with the character, and ~~XXXX~~ I'll keep you posted. She's finishing up a bookkeeping job, the one she has, so she can return to the retyping of the last part of PW. She said she thinks the colors will work out well.

Meanwhile, she also said that if you (col) do like the peace symbol and would like it one something, she'll be glad to do it. Sweater for lil J perhaps? Just to keep going, she is making me a sweater I really don't need. So, I'm planing to give one I've hardly worn to a friend I expect later in the week. It is, for her and me, a farout, doublebreasted vest sweater that I like much. I liked a yellow one identical to it so much she made that one in blue, but I haven't good clothes with which the blue goes well, and she had some left-over afghan yarn that does go with what I have, and this the extra extra extra sweater. And I think the blue will just fit Ned, who has made some of my recent Archives acquisitions possible. You'll be reading, I hope with some excitement, about them- I hope before too many years. I sent you come notes to give you a notion.

Despite everything, in some ways poverty being the chief handicap, more than official suppression-repression, our knowledge expands regularly and dependably. My major torment, aside from having to cope with so many unpleasant things, like the crooked publisher who has beat me out of hald the "advance" and made us major problems, is that so much of it is not on paper in some form. More and more I am less concerned about the form, wanting so much to get it all recorded. That way it is of use, or can be. I think this autopsy/medical thing could do an enormous amount if available and promoted. Then I think back to A ent Oswald, which should open new areas if there is any attention (and with Bailey defending Garrison, I can think of some!). So, back to that, after cleaning up the rest of today's mail.

Sincerely,