

8/21/71

Dear Js,

Your two mailings from San Rafael of the 18th came this a.m. I'm glanced in them to see there is no letter but many clips and I'll get to going over them, as now I must, in between other things for I have too many time binds. Had visitors last evening for overnight, expect a British correspondent friend in two hours, we have company tomorrow (family) and I have someone coming to read uncorrected ms Monday. How he'll do with my typos alone I wonder.

I have had several new preoccupations I could not put off, as always happens, including what I think may be a meaningful flutter from a caged bird and I've had to do what is possible, which right now is little.

Hal has, if you do not (he phoned me last night, and I was glad to hear from him), the Sputnik articles. I've read one and written the editor of Aurora. I suspect they may at long last plan a book and I'd hate it to be flawed by error that can destroy its acceptability here and elsewhere. The doctrine is approximately correct, the fact isn't and the exasperation is unnecessary. I had a row with the cultural attache some years ago when he outlinked the NY press/publishers. He told me quite blandly that they do not consider for original publication any foreign work, which I suspect is false, and their dedication to the welfare of the workers of the world is best expressed in their refusing to pay for literary work taken without permission and, if paid for at all, is with rubles in Moscow that can't be taken out of the country. Dilia could do nothing in the rest of Eastern Europe when they wanted to and I agreed to accept payment in trade, exported items. But they are worth reading, these pieces, judging from this one. Its statement of the threat of war is less than Warren's to the staff, which I have. He made it much harder.

Several days ago I heard a broadcast news fragment that from this a.m.'s Washington Post I realize must have had to do with the spectacular break of Joel Kaplan from the Mexico jail. I have never doubted he is/was CIA and I knew of the Fund. I lacked any reason to connect him with the assassination. But from this Post account, the escape is pure Bond. I have a file, a large file, would you ever want it. Meanwhile, if you keep a file of these stories (the Post rewrote wire copy only for today), ultimately I'd appreciate copies. What I have came from JG and on this basis alone is suspect. I haven't looked at it for so long I have no recall of its contents. It is probably incomplete but is about 3/8" of xeroxes.

It may be a little time before I can read and copy what I want from the Max Frankel piece. If you are in hurry, please let me know.

Many thanks for all the clips. I look forward to reading, and I saw some were returned.

Sincerely,