

8/5/67

Dear Jonn,

If your letter of 7/31 (six days by mail is fast) is to warn me of the three lights in the belfry, I'm lookin'. If it is to say I'm expected to lead the Saints in a charge, I'll need about three days to get in good enough shape to run 50 yards and I can't do it September 15 or 16. I'll be so tired September 17, I really won't be up to it then. And I'll be in Philadelphia, anyway.

Glad the reception was that good. I wish it had been reflected in orders. However, I did get a letter from Montana, from a student working on a ranch this summer, asking if I'd consent to an interview with his prep-school paper (35 minutes from here!) after school reopens.

I'm kind of warming up with the enclosed. Is there anyone else I should pick a fight with? Especially over Roberts. That's equal time I want.

I phoned John after we spoke and told him I'd told you okay. I also learned that a request from the London Times for a copy of the N.O. ms which I phoned him three weeks ago had not yet reached him. The cost: the correspondent is back in England without it! They pay better than the SEPost and are influential.

I had also hoped some Western medium would give me a voice in going after the eastern intellectual community (finks to me) and the centers of the control of the press.

My wife hadn't cracked a smile all day, until she read your letter. Then she asked what made you think she could sleep when I'm on the phone at night and we are all in one big subterranean garret! The repair work on our new home has just begun. I was there momentarily Thursday. I'm looking forward to getting into it so that I can have a separate place to work, and where it will not disturb her. We'll have about six phone outlets in it. Four are already there, including one by the swimming pool and one by the pond and barbecue pit! The wasps have taken them over.

If Harv lets me know, I can play parts of the Andrews tape over the phone, in advance, and he can tape it. That should be something. I'd like to tell the story of how this all developed, beginning with a TV engineer's strike in the fag end of a blizzard and a bent-elbow session that began at lunch and ended 3 a.m. Bob Scott is a damned good newsman.

Sylvia Mesgher has also written Kichel an excellent letter. If your ABC men will phone me, I'll make the Andrews tape available to them, with full credit to ABC, which is Bob's. Their people here will not talk to me. It is bad enough that I read books, but my god, I WRITE them! An honest job on this could really do something for ABC. I think them incapable. But if I can get on Merv G perhaps some of them will hear and see.

The outgoing mail is two hours early today because the regular carrier is off and the preacher is carrying it. You figure it out, we can't. But it always happens. Its like I told Mel Baily, I need more enemies. Best,