

10/18/71

Dear Ned (cc Gary only),

Brief update on Pictures. I think it best there be no talk about them, from my too-many experiences in the critical community.

I now have prints of all the b&w negs. They suffer the liabilities of all b&ws made from color, but are also helpful. I hope the exposed color negatives will be waiting for me in DC tomorrow. They were not ready last week.

The picture of the tie is, perhaps, a bit clearer and the negative will take some enlarging of the critical areas. There is no immediate point in it so I've not had it done yet. I'm waiting to see what the color makes possible.

On the back of the coat, I defy you to find the bullet-hole. There is, however, a small patch and only a relatively small one that can be taken for blood. It is, considering, remarkably clean, especially when compared with the front, which I need not describe. This picture makes it possible to see more traces of what must be blood on the inside of the back of the jacket, which is provocative when compared with what I've told you of the back and what I showed you on the shirt back. I think it is overwhelming that there was much more bleeding from the inside out on the back of the body and well to its left than has ever been indicated, or explained.

Nothing else new. No word from Cyril. I expect none.

As you may have noted, Nixon was five minutes away today and I am happy that he took for his speech from my Senator's statement what I had used in speaking to Mac, the obvious biblical reference to swords and plowshares. The national center for the study of cancer is an appropriate use for those excellent facilities. It is a great tragedy that the improviser Nixon first saw to it that the remarkable brainpower that had been assembled for evil use was dissipated before he decided to put the facilities to so fine a purpose. About 1,200 are gone. They included some really fine scientists.

I didn't even tune in the local station. I kept right at re-reading the first part, which is tedious and time-consuming.

Best regards,