

10/22/70

Dear Bud,

This is something about which I'd make a note. Because of the off chance it may relate to you, I do it this way.

I was away from home longer than usual Monday morning, and I used my phone to make the arrangements. Some time after I picked Lil up (1 p.m.) and after we had lunch, I was outside and noticed a set of keys under the front bumper of the car. They are not mine and not those of anyone who has been here recently when I've been home, for I've muscled with everyone except Jim, who was here Friday.

My car has developed a slight oil leak I've not been able to get fixed but will at next servicing. It requires the replacing of a gasket. For this reason, I've been running a trifle past the concrete of the carport in parking, without deviation, so this oil will not accumulate on and stain the concrete. It was at the edge of the concrete, on the stones, and slightly under the car, that I found these keys.

There is no stain of any kind on the black plastic metalion that is part of the key ring (Myron Manufacturing Corporation, nothing else save an insignia-no address, phone number or indication of business). Because we have heavy and lingering dews this time of the year, I am led to believe it possible they keys had been dropped quite recently, which can be fallacious reasoning.

At first I took it, without really thinking, that they are car keys. When I looked at them again and figured they are more likely file-cabinet keys. Today I consulted my friendly locksmith, and he confirms this guess, saying that one would fit a number of other things also and one may well be a desk key.

Three have numbers written on tiny slips of paper pasted on. All have manufacturers' numbers engraved:

Illinois T356 (numbered 4)  
Illinois & 358 ( " 5)  
Chicago Lock Co. ( " 1/2)  
Dominion Lock Co. H69  
Yale H124

If these are the numbers on your locks, then Jim dropped these and I didn't notice them. If not, I suppose I've had visitors who knew when I'd not be here and when I'd return. No one has phoned to say he was here when I wasn't, though, which sort of suggests a special interest of some kind, and if someone did want to be here when he knew I'd not be, it would be a simple matter for another to tail and report, for I never pay any attention to such possibilities. There ~~xxxxx~~ have been times where there were other and unmistakable evidences of uninvited visitors, but not that I've noticed recently. On previous cases I noticed these things only by accident.

Sincerely,

P.S. I hope you can do some thinking about what I want to do about the letter to Curran by the time I'm there Monday, for there now are two major expressions of interest, only Paul's sought as an estimate. The other is TV.