

12/17/71

Dear Pearl,

Any kind of rediscovery is exciting. That of America, in a special way, has been my quest for 3 of the more difficult years. (I've just returned from an investigating trip that was quite successful, and I "rediscovered" what has come to be called "The Other Side.")

If I understand your reference to reactions under stress, I think you really mean city people and physical stress complicated by deflated egos. We have softened so! I make puny efforts at deterring. Day before yesterday I walked four (mountain) miles into town. Daily I go up the mountain (on which we live) a mile, albeit with dog mace and a .32 automatic --and how that turned the radical-right dog-owners on! Yesterday I spent four hours as a machete, with 40x-foot rosebushes, inch-thick honeysuckle. Having never pushed 60 before, I don't know how effective it all is. But it is good, whether or not a brake on aging.

Glad you are coming. If you come directly from Mexico City, I presume you'll land at Dulles. It is the best airport, where traffic never causes stacking, and but an hour away. I'll be glad to meet you there. Second best is Baltimore's Friendship, about 15 minutes further away. National, in Washington, is more crowded and takes no non-stop flights from more than 1000 miles away, so unless you plan a stop, avoid it in your scheduling. You can, of course, stay here. We're the space and it is quiet. If you will want to be doing any work in Washington, I can't promise dilly transportation, but Greyhound does it four-five times each way, including at commuter hours (fit for reading but no other recommendation). If you'll go from here to NYC, the least attractive way and by far the most costly is air. If you don't like bus, the new Norfoliner trains make it from Baltimore in about 2 hours, deposit you down town, are clean and comfortable, and in all require less time than the plane. Bus is frequent. And right now it looks like I'll have to be going to NYC the weekend of 1/15. So, if I may but into your affairs, don't go all the way by air if you are now scheduling your trip. Go to Washington (or Friendship). You can always leave from NYC should you want to in returning.

Be interested in the Cortes trip when you are here. And all the other things.

Best regards,

Dec. 8, 1971

hi -

A small miracle has happened! I got a mag to back me in Kaplan research. I say small, because that's exactly what the budget is - nevertheless I'll be up your way around the end of the month. I'll bring my files and maybe we'll rediscover America!

The Cortes trip lasted four days! Interesting to see how people react under stress. But a great irony in history occurred to me. Cortes certainly doesn't have his proper place in Mexican history when the whole country is a vestige of his, albeit enroute you can hardly find any. Tell you about it. Was a great experience, although aborted.

Best ,