

12/12/74

Dear Dottie,

We knew that the earth hadn't opened but we did think you'd been swallowed!

Wdka very much to see you but our lives haven't changed and we can't come into town except when we must and they stay busy on what I go for.

Solution: you come here.

Aside from an almost-drafted "different" Watergate book I had to lay aside for my work on the Ray case and all the other things that keep me too busy there is the great-grandson of Whitewash. Thought you'd have seen the WxPost story 11/22.

This time the shoestring is shorter and thinner and the obligation heavier. I have a colleague in it and he borrowed \$6,000 to pay the printer and it is worse than the old story with wholesalers: fewer because so many didn't pay and they are again doing nothing-not even putting a copy out.

So, unable to afford to travel, I still have to sell the book. To date this has been by phoned broadcasts, news beepers and talk shows where I ask in advance that they tell listeners how to get the book and the cost. Thus I get checks in advance and don't have unnecessary correspondence back and forth. And stay busy enough talking and packaging. Make that until now. The effect of the shows I've done has worn off and so have orders so I can now package more. I do it to the TV news.

Now the strangest part of it is that I have not asked for one of these many broadcasts. I'm not where I have to ask. They are the result of news stories (Post, AP, UPI) and the most numerous and least productive from a sort of underground series mostly to radio stations that I also suppose are mostly college FMs.

Not really being able to pay for a phone call is sort of inhibiting.

So, for that matter, is 120,000 miles on the car.

We are getting out a mailing. By now our list must be about 2,000 or more names. To pay for this mailing I've sold limited ancillary rights for a non-exclusive, one-time use to a small part. And not a bit too <sup>soon</sup> since we want to mail right after Xmas. Lil is updating the list/labels. Which keeps her busy when she can find the time. College kids home for the holidays thus will have a chance to see the mailing and bookstores will be over the rush and wondering what the hell they can sell in the stillest months.

We hope!

Anyway, these are the added reasons we can't come in. Part of them. There is our own books Lil has to update before the tax season begins otherwise she won't be able to file our own.

We do hope you can make it here.

Our best,