

Rt 7, Frederick, Md. 21701 11/30/67

Dear Art,

Your package of two tapes, paper and letters arrived in the middle of a 10-inch snow. The rural carrier left a notice in the box, I braved all to go to the Post Office four miles away (three hour round trip!) and here, as you can see from the enclosed, challenged Vinson. Be interesting to see if he responds, and how.

The package was in good condition, as were the contents. However, the seal was twice broken. To cover the first rupture, the P.O. affixed several stamps like the enclosed, which was barely hanging on. In this case, I think the most likely ~~explanation~~ explanation is rough handling, for it got here in but two days, meaning less than that, for our mail leave the Post Office early in the morning. And although the package had correctly been labeled "Received in damaged condition", the contents were okay.

Had a long talk with Dick Billings by phone today. He was about to fly down to meet me in Washington, the weather being clear in New York, when I talked him out of it. He'd never have landed in Washington or Baltimore. The airports were still snowed in after 6 p.m. He was to have brought me a copy of the Castorr tape. I've been having difficulty getting that one copy here. I also asked him for Cecoco's notes and he said that he, too, would like to see them. O is now assigned to Paris and has put nothing on paper. Dick's opinion is that Huston's behavior is typical of that of others he has dealt with who have nothing to deliver. I give you this for what it is worth. It can be argued that he was giving feedback from the first two books.

Phoned Paul Fenning last night. He is looking forward to getting the tape. I am confident they'll use it. He may call you. I told him how. His guy Jerry Williams, is terrific, one of the best in the business.

If you get any literature on the Sony recorder of which you wrote, please forward it. I cannot afford it, but there have been times when I really needed one like that. Not for James Conderly (although there have also been such occasions) but for those people who react either way to the visible mike....I'll look for the surplus phone equipment. I have the jacks installed already.

Thanks also for the Free Press (which also had a story on my SF press conf. I got a copy of the Daily Californian with some of Liebler's squeals in it. I commended them for recording his transformation from the fox who got himself hire to guard the chicken house into the pig who got stuck. We'll see what happens if they print my letter. Clearly, someone at Berkeley was keeping him rapidly informed. His response was printed two days after my letter-afternoon speech....Maybe the Free Press story will quiet him down a little.

I've got to get around to changing this ribbon. Apologies. And thanks.

Sincerely,

Dear Harold:

Here are two dubs of Jims speech before our group on the 14'th. I have sent other copies to Jack McKinney and Paul Fanning with instructions that they mail back the tapes to you.

Also, lest I forget, your Pyne interview ran en-toto out here last Friday night, the 24'th. As best I could tell, there was no editing. It was a major plus piece. He couldn't have been more gracious were he your brother.

I received the Dean tape in this afternoons mail and await the Castorrs dub. I will familiarize myself thoroly with the contents before I make any interview overtures.

Also got your letter from the man in Glendale. That really sounds interesting. Glendale has been the center for such type intrigue for quite a long time. I'll wait for him to contact me or until you hear from him further.

Re; the tiny tape recorder...the makes now available I am led to understand are not that reliable (as well as being pretty expensive). However, the Sony company is due to come out with a pocket type model in January which is to market for around \$100.00. They are a very reliable outfit and I would suggest you wait until you see what they have to offer. As for a mike/headset combination to relieve your hands for lengthy phone calls and/or interview shows, we have two such items here at the station which we simply rent from the phone company. Its referred to as a headset. I'm certain that the phone company in your area would have one available since the unit is standard for radio-tv stations, newspaper and wire service offices. The only thing different about it is that it has a jack that goes into your telephone. By the way, I have also seen these on sale in war surplus stores for a very nominal cost. You might consider buying one then having the phone company simply provide you with a jack-match into your phone.

Also for your files, a copy of the picture release by Ray Marcus in last weeks Free-Press newspaper.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'A. J. ...' or similar, written in a cursive style.

HAROLD:

ROGER ALDI OF OUR NEWS DEPARTMENT WAS SO MOVED BY JIM'S
RECENT SPEECH HERE THAT HE WROTE OFF A LENGTHY AND VERY
EXPENSIVE NIGHT LETTER TO LBJ RE: THE ASSASSINATION.
THIS IS THE REPLY. DO YOU THINK I READ TOO MUCH INTO THE
LINES I HAVE UNDERLINED? ON THE MATTER OF COMMENTING..
THAT OF COURSE HAS BEEN DONE ALREADY..AND THE LINE OF
JEOPARDIZING LIVES OF INDIVIDUALS I FIND FASCINATING.
WHAT DO YOU THINK???????

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Aldi', is written over the end of the typed text.