

Dear Bill,

1/7/97

Glad to get your letter of the 2d and to learn that most of the flooded area is above you. As of last night's TV it still looks pretty awesome. And hurtful to many people.

From the maps on TV I could not tell whether you were in the worst area or not. Sunday's map in the Post made me sorry I'd given you fine atlas to a very bright 10-year-old boy who fell in love with it and as soon as he saw it spent two hours with it..

Anyway, we are glad you are not suffering the worst of it and apparently are not hurt as much by the widespread flooding. Hope the thaw does not change that!

On the 26, you got a steal! I gave my spare set to Hood still in the original cartons. The value estimate I got from a dealer was \$5,000 for the books and \$75 for the cartons. The dealers long ago stopped adding to their lists of those who want to buy the 26. So you were also pretty lucky.

And the value will grow.

On our weather, it is 25 degrees colder this morning than it was this time yesterday morning. I've been wearing shorts for a week or so but not this morning.

We have had a rather mild spell for about a week. I heard it was record high. But the cold weather is returning and I fear will not be followed by more moderate temperatures which are our age we do prefer!

When I stop to think that 55 years ago in the army, stationed along Lake Erie beginning this month, it was so cold and we got so used to the cold that on Sunday's we'd go to chow in our undershirts, then long Johns but still nothing on top of it. I shiver just thinking of it!! Pulled full duty until it was 20 below. Snow so deep that we sat on where the streets were plowed, it was that deep.

Heard the cherry blossoms started coming to bloom in DC.

We are OK, thanks. Lil had a close one. She sat on a doctor's chair a week ago when I saw the local dermatologist. Fell straight down when it slip out from under her. Nothing broken but she still hurts a bit.

Hope your luck on the weather holds out! Best to you all,

1-2-97

3:45pm

DEAR HAROLD

SORRY MY LETTERS HAVE SLOWED BUT I HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN YOU, JUST VERY BUSY SEEMS TO NEVER END - WE ARE HAVING A LOT OF FLOODING HERE DUE TO SNOW RUN OFF RAIN, MOSTLY ABOUT 40 MILES NORTH OF US AS I AM WRITING THIS THE NEWS IS ON AND THEY HAVE CLOSED HWY 99 @ BY SACRAMENTO TOTALLY FLOODED. HOWS YOUR WEATHER COOL ILL BET. QUESTION - WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE BOOK FAREWELL AMERICA. THE SET OF THE 26 I GOT APPEAR TO HAVE NEVER BEEN CRACKED OPEN, JUST SHUN FROM SITTING ON SOMEONES BOOK SHELF FOR YEARS ALSO GOT A COPY OF ORIGINAL 'WARREN REPORT' I TELL YOU THIS STUFF IS NOT CHEAP, WELL CHARLES JUST CAME IN SO I WILL CLOSE, HOPE YOU AND LIL ARE WELL.

YOUR FRIEND

BILL