

1.27/70

Dear Howard,

I had hardly finished the enclosed letter to you when the mail arrived, a registered package requiring the postman to deliver it to the house, and included where your mailing of the 25th and a welcome package from Dick (to whom CC).

You will phone before you can get this, but I write so you'll have a record if you come this weekend anyway. I have to be away part of it, but that need present no problem to you. You can be here. We both have dental appointments Saturday, in DC. This weekend may be better for me because of other possibilities close to the Feb dates.

However, your transportation here will have to change in a way that presents little problem. I will be in Washington Friday. If you know what bus you will catch, possibly I can meet it at the Greyhound terminal. If not, you can take a cab for the short distance to Bud Fensterwald's office, where I will have a copy of PM for you to read while I am otherwise occupied. While I think you would like to be in on what I'll be doing, I think it is better for us not to have this close association at the Archives. If you do not know Bud, you should. His office is Room 612, 927 15th St., NW, phone 347-3919. However, I expect him to be with me. I have just phoned him and he will not be, but you are welcome there. His office is but 5-blocks or so from depot, as easy walk if you are not too burdened with luggage.

On the trip home, we have time for talking, which is not a waste. I do not plan to stay at the Archives long. I should be able to leave there about noon.

So, the difference in your ticketing will be you have, a presume, a round-trip from Baltimore to get, a one-way ticket Baltimore to Washington and a one-way Frederick to Baltimore. Your actual travelling time will be less, because you can take a through bus to DC and will have no layover wait at a terminal. It is not complicated. Further, there are nonstop Phila-DC busses making the trip in 2 hrs. 35 minutes. My schedule mentions but does not list them.

Meanwhile, drop the formalities. As long as you do not use what I do not want anyone else to use, you are not making a pig of yourself, and you are welcome, presenting little problem to us,

Other things: The Necomb copies date to years after Bishop's. I have known for some time that Tink had these copies. I presume he stole them. I believe he was once caught at it, by LIFE. Slits: agreed. I am proceeding in my own way on other aspects of the proof. This is not new, as the Archives corres. file will show. Ditto 399 (remember PM on this?). You study the different 399 pix again when you see here. (Is it worthwhile considering staying another day? Can you make up that school work if you do and if it seems desirable?). Alloys: my original inquiries, back in 1965, told me that the differences in the alloys are such that good spectro can detect the different mfrs batches. You did learn that a fragment "fell off" while they were taking Tink's pix, which is prior to the letter from the Archives to me confirming it, which is, I believe, what he cited. But this is your discovery. Regret not noticing it when I read his memo, which is a good one. Tink measurement: agreed also, but why do you omit the largest variable, time, as I believe I've mentioned before? I do not know the interval between snaps of the shutter, but that speed is about 1/30 sec. HW