

9/23/69

Dear hal,

The other night I was in an Arlan's store near here and walked past a display of \$25.00 cassette tape recorders. Because of the low price I examined it. I was surprised at its weight, which I take to be a sign of decent components. We got a sale bill from them today. That identical machine is on sale for \$20.00. I do not know if they have a store in your area (I believe I saw a larger one than we have near San Diego or LA), but if they do and you have not replaced yours, this one might interest you. In size it is not larger than the Norelco. It does eject the cassettes, which is an advantage mine does not have, and does have an automatic volume control. It does not have a level indicator and presume, with automatic gain, does not require one. It has a tone control, which can be an advantage. It does not have a carrying case (I have never used mine). And two of them would fit in the space your one took up in your attache case.

This sale will be over before you get the letter, but I thought you might want to know what is available. I presume you replaced your radio. They have one on sale identical with one I bought for \$12.00 (am-fm) for \$7.00 and it is decent. If you have not been able to replace the radio, I have a rather small transistor set I got just for travelling. It is the size of a pack of cigarettes, a good make, that I need for no other purpose and can spare if you need one. It would be okay on your local stations, and a single 9-volt battery (they cost 15¢ each here if you watch for the specials) last 200-300 hours. However, response on music is not very good.

All of my hand tools were stolen from our place at Hyattstown. Those I had to replace immediately I have replaced with new tools. Those I need but not urgently I will be going to the local auction, probably weekly, for a while to get second hand. I examined today what they will auction off tomorrow (no portable typewriters). Should my earlier letter on this interest you, that is, if you'll be satisfied with any old machine, let me know. But this also makes me think of your local hock shops. Since writing you one of the drug chains here has been advertising a Royal (I presume made in Japan) for \$39.00 new.

Nothing new.

Sincerely,