

Dear Jim,

9/29/78

We both got breaks in the weather about the same time. I've enjoyed it much. I relish the physical activity and I'm pleased to be getting things a bit more orderly and to make it easier to take care of the place.

During the telecast of the hearings I sat by the tube, like a boob, forgetting I have a cheap little set at my desk where I could take notes better and forgetting that when I didn't need notes I could watch it with an extension cord and an extension to the aerial, which has three outlets in the house. So I found too late that the sitting with the occasional walking in the house was not good and I didn't feel as I should.

The muff dropped off the mind when there was only radio and I took some in while walking outside. Then I found that I could do other work and miss nothing. So I've now encircled the large new garden spot near the house where Lil/ will transplant some of her flowers and add new ones with a brick border. We like that well enough for me to have used up the remaining bricks doing the same thing at the house. I'M resting now from that bending.

In a few moments I'm going to get some topsoil to fill the holes left by unnecessary and unsightly flagstones I've already removed from where Lil didn't want them. I used them to make a wall inside the new flowerbed and reduce the fall and inevitable erosion from it. So next summer flower gardening will be easier for Lil and grass mowing much easier for me and with all it will look better.

Meanwhile, I still exult in being able to do so much more than last year this time and am less concerned over the considerable reduction in my prior capability it represents. I have become certain that various kinds of physical activity are good for the circulation and this for me. So I still try to vary it while the weather permits to use different muscles and inspire different arteries.

The clips with your 9/26 appear not to be repetitions and to be of value. I'll read them on the next break, unless the phone keeps ringing as it has. The Enquirer is busting itself open on a committee story. When they bust it is like Vesuvius. I know they had 70 staffers and fulltime stringers on this and I'm sure I've been phoned by more than half of them this past week. I'm hoping they've put the issue to bed because no calls for more than an hour after about one an hour, maybe more, for the past eight hours.

What you say about Hospice appears to be supported by the increasing references in radio news. There appears to be some fairly well organized support activity in the Washington area and it appears to have competent p.r.

Dave is due this evening. He was to have gotten to D.C. last night. He'll be here for several days and we look forward to it. As you have learned, wonderful person.

Before going out into the beautiful day again what may amuse you. Lardner sent me the released committee transcript of its Castro meeting. (I can hardly call it an interview. It would have been a total void if he had not taken over and volunteered his head off on so very much.) George and all the other reporters missed a sidebar - Fidel setting the committee straight on telescopic vs. open sights and rapid fire, etc. (When I wrote this it meant nothing but is there one more an authority that Sr. Revolution?) So the committee siezed upon his lecturing to improvise a new Oswald scenario and "solution." It is that he used the open sights under the scope, which let him be magical. But that this they clearly got from Castro from their own timing I thought was funny. Without stopping to think what the Enquirer could do with this I told them. Now I have to wait and see what comes out.

Thanks and best,

26 September 1978

Dear Harold:

Herewith some more clippings. Let's hope they have a few crumbs which haven't otherwise reached you.

I include even the stuff from the Post-Times wire service, as what the Post files on this circuit is not always identical with what it prints.

We've just had a brief heat wave, but it cooled off today enough that I could get back to painting the house.

Otherwise no news. I keep busy, including assorted mini-projects for Hospice. It continues spreading, with some 200 units either formed or in formation all over the country. Hospice of Marin is currently conducting its third week-long seminar this year for doctors and nurses from coast to coast. This crop is more keenly interested, and is asking sharper questions, than the two preceding ones. Very good to see how the word is spreading, and I have the impression that the whole idea is having its effect on the attitude of much of the medical profession.

Best to you both,

 jdw