

Dear Dave,

1/18/80

We were all very glad to hear from Bud today. Rae was doing some checking in the basement. I called down and said there was some good news up stairs if she could use some. She is a pretty emotionally young woman. Initially she was almost speechless and I'd not have been surprised if she'd wept. She is aware that the little she gets is a drain on us and she has been pondering possible alternatives.

She then told us some good news she had. A friend is leaving the area and is giving her his Volvo. She says she'd hesitate about driving it to Vermont but around town it is better than her rusting wreck.

Jim told me today that he'd heard from you and that you like the CIA affidavit response. Glad you do because you can look forward to more! In going over some file drawers in which I placed things when I couldn't do anything else with them she located what I'd forgotten and I expect to put it to use soon. Rather than take the edge off I'll let you read it when you get the thing all put together.

If there were only time to redo these things, which all have to be off the top of the head!

Before you get this you should have the sample abstracts Jim got today. I asked him to send a xerox of them to you but for now not the underlying records, which were provided with them. Cost.

As soon as I get them I'll have to do some checking and prepare a response. I would like to have that done before they prepare their justification, which they indicate will take several weeks.

Rae is also making a card index to all the HSCA cites to King records. This will let us know if any were withheld from me.

Fortunately the weather is mild for January or we'd be snowed in. We are having what in the spring the farmers would welcome as a fine spring rain. Steady.

But it is supposed to turn to snow in a couple of days.

No night has been as cold as zero yet, although some have been close. It now looks as though we'll make the winter without a fuel oil delivery. We use the furnace only when I'm away and haven't used a quarter of a tank yet.

I've done a little splurging, so that Lil can hear the simulcasts of good music, especially operas, while I sleep. I got her a set of stereo headphones, very light, Radio Shack Pro 10s. The difference in sound is fantastic, if you didn't know. Nobody can afford speakers that good - if they are made.

To make Rae's day even better, she had a visit from a school mate who, it happens, used my records before she graduated. I hadn't seen her in several years. She is married, happy, with a kid who at nine months looks like he will be built for a fullback, and she has held onto a job she likes, as a detail person for a large drug house. (Unfortunately, it doesn't make any of those I take.) She was really excited when she saw the basement and wants to come back and just wander through it.

I'm up to a little past Section 176 in the HQ assassination file, making fewer subject file copies because there is less that is not in the other files and because time and cost are requiring that I be more careful but I'm coming across some good stuff. When I do it is copied.

Our best to you all,