

I sure wear rubbers out fast!

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11/8/71

Dear Js,

Got the mail at the p.o. this a.m. en route to D.C. and filing my statement on Powell with the Injudicial Committee. After parking car read your 11/4 in the cab. You are right on the doctors (we both found this v. interesting--Lil read when I got home) and it has to be the same Dr. Hatem for part of that broadcast was on the complete readication of VD in China...Dallas trip off and on over weekend. Rich bastard worried about cost, but trip to Other two places being extended to include Dallas. We'll see....Analysis on Ned quite precise in most areas. He is not isolated but has been consciously involving himself in some of the mildly liberal community things, and an African committee, things like that. Most most of his are class contacts, within his own. Even here you are half right, because he does know only himself despite not being isolated, which is strange. He also really thinks of nothing but himself, which led him to ruin his rep forever by sending three otherd copies of his incredible letter of the 2nd to me. Two had conversed in outrage and one with temporary access to a WATS line phoned tonight to say my response was rather moderate. Ane he didn't mean for me only. He couldn't believe the arrogance. The others are now getting paranoid and wondering if it can be that he is some kind of agents They're bright, young and inexperienced.

By now you know some of what I have to swing with JBR. Twon't be easy.

I'd prefer to believe Dr. Friede wrong but I couldn't muster a strong rebuttal.

We were both unaware of and are fascinated by Hatem's background.

Your account of Roberts squares with everything I know and is an understatement of the impression I formed when Salisbury had me meet with him and the others of their aborted "investigation" of 1967, which I believe I cause. Salisbury saw me the day they fired Stanlet Kauffmann, which was quite a day at the Times! and I gave him a copy of the ms of WWII that subsequently got lost. On Kihss I agree with Lane, which is not common. Except I had the same feeling about Wicker, who has changed that way, when he was bureau chief and I met him in 1965, and he read the ms of WW, sent it to Salisbury, who was also impressed. It is Wicker who decided me to do a private printing, for whereas before he read it he said he tossed all that came to him into the wastebasket without reading, after reading he felt it was the only way the book could appear. S. said that while he couldn't do anything to help, they(d have a "lively news interest" when it came out. Which translated into reality means I made them pay for the 14th copy, they never mentioned, never reviewed, and wouldn't even list in Books Received. But have you a better notion of the second Salisbury position now? I was with Wicker when he got the ms back and he read me the letter. There was a wierdo problem with Norton's, and when I learned its nature (natch the author is the one guy who can't do or know anything), I said why not ask someone like Wicker? They also read his letter encouraging them to publish. It was later killed because I wouldn't alter it to suit the conspiratorial interpretation of an old-time, formerly liberal (unchanged in his 70th year) lawyer they had read it. He wanted the wildest charges in it.

You and Lil and right except for two things: first it is not my nature not to trust people without reason, and second in my position I have little alternative. Besides, Ned came with the auspices of one of the closer of my young friends. On O&D your point is correct, and it is immaterial whether they did what they did under pressure, as agents, from incompetence. The end is the same. I think they have overdone it a bit, though, and have handed me a fraud case. If so, it may help get what they still owe.

On your colds: we are not much for pills, take what we are told to, mostly but only when it is serious always, and when I found wine is a good tranquilizer, I largely dispensed with them. My accident we found (after seeing the first Dristan commercial) that the ebendryl prescribed for me to take when I react to insect stings works for us. It comes in two strengths, 25 and 50 mg as I recall. These are the 25s. The moment we feel a cold coming on, which isn't often, we pop and and never have a cold. Been years.

Many thanks for the stamps. But please use the largest ones you can get when you send things to me, for two reasons: they are attractive and are usually what we don't see here (and Lil saves them for kids), and often they don't get cancelled. Two of the three on this I'll use again. It got so common I got a small 10¢-store paste jar and keep it on the desk. However, if this is a hint that my letters are getting there with postage due, it means that my rather expensive Pelouze scale is off and I'd like to know. We are so broke I practise all possible economies, like filing the envelopes to the mark. I never go over it. If it is wrong, I'll get a weight and set it correctly. I wondered about this when JER sent me both a letter and apparently the one Valentine he sent out. It didn't seem to be overweight, but there was postage due. I weighed it and according to my scale it was barely to the mark. You might enjoy the card. I have it on the wall. If it sound like fun, I can't copy the color, but I can copy. Legends: 'Tis Halloween. Would you like to Join the United Vampires of America (and under this a seal with a green, blubous-nosed, long-toothed witch), inside, "We Need 'Oke Fresh Blood in the Organization". And his note, "Guess who this reminds me of?"

Just saw and ~~mark~~ read the marked part of that John Darnton story on Powell. Would I have loved that quote for the hurried statement I submitted today! I'll read it and the other clips as I can. I'm trying to catch up on the things to write tonight because the burnishing in posting corrections in PM is easier done in daylight, which discloses shows better than artificioal light. If I do this nights, I have to check each page in daylight.

Returned Bazelon clip: I wrote him but the clerk intercepted the letter. 'o, I wrote again.

UPI Contreras Castro/Kaplan story: part I can confirm from my source, whose real name is (sit tight) Pearl Gonzalez Fishbine, and she is not on a ehgira for the AP, going over the trail of the conquistadores as they did it! However, she doubts the coaims C.C. makes. She knew Kaplan and the lawyers well, his Mexican wife, etc., and has interviewed them all. She wanted me to collaborate on a book. I hear from her foten but won't for three weeks, under this blistering (feet or buttocks-mules) is over. Glad to have this for record.

I'll read Freep Jackson story later.

KPFA-Cook interview vy interesting on Mancino (I think the local publicity you spotted got him back to Calif.), preceptive in the Warden's purposes, etc. Lending to a friend who is a friend of others.

Gotta get to other mail so a.m. will be free. Here we need snow tires. I've phoned and made a date with Jerry Ray, with whom I'll be sharing a motel room in suburban Knoxville. He is metting me at airport next Tuesday and, believe it or not, is also my self appointed advance man, with several TV shows lined up! Better than shooting a guy, even if you catch him stealing, as Jerry did. The case was so transparent, eecen Stoner got himoff. Like my friends? 'ows where you advice on using Sony tapes will come in handy. I feel I'd best use 120s for the (non-clandestine) interviews, and with that handy warning. I'll be getting them in a.m., so that if it snows here, I'll be ready. First part advances already advanced and in hand, to be banked a.m. If you know any dependable reporters in N.O. or Dlass, please let me know pronto.

Lil enjoyed Je's card. She asked me to say so for she'd prefer to keep knitting while she is relaxing a bit before bed. Since my last progress report she has gotten up to the bottom of the name and has~~t~~ started spelling it out. Which means closer to the end.

Thanks and best,

