

19 September 1971

Dear Harold:

Herewith some enclosures, only one of which needs any comment ~~xxxx~~ and that is attached to it.

This is partly to let you know that we sent the extra' Sony mike to you Sept. 14 by parcel post. Let's hope it helps.

Also, under separate cover but mailed at the same time with this will be a first-class mailing of two Sony mike cords with plugs which your electronic friend should be able to connect with your Concord mike or mikes. I hope he won't feel insulted that I taped little tags to the various connections to indicate which was the sound circuit and which for the on-off switch. We asked the dealer which was which, in case someone less expert than your friend might try to connect them. No fingers pointed, of course.

We have your mailings postmarked Sept. 3, 10, 12, 13 and 16, all containing much interesting material and much ~~xxxx~~ susceptible to comment, but the way we have been living it has been impossible even to read some of it, much less find the time to answer. We ^{are} starting the last week of the graveyard shift tonight, and let's hope we can get back to something less alien to a normal life.

The hot weather has broken, apparently, so we're beginning to catch up a little on sleep. We rarely have more than a week of hot weather each year here, but for a population so spoiled that they think 85 in the shade is a heat wave, a real dose of heat like we had this past week really throws everyone. No one here has air conditioning because of the ~~xxx~~ brevity of the heat when it does come, so everyone just has to get through it the best he can.

I'm sure you're aware that San Quentin was Dealey Plaza all over again, and that Attica follows the same pattern of improvization, contradiction and general phoniness of the official story at San Quentin. Naturally, our files on both these dos are proliferating at an incredible rate. Very briefly we feel two key elements in these situations -- aside from the general inhumanity of the prison system and the society supporting it -- are the racism of the guards, the apparent fact that most of them carry concealed weapons when they aren't supposed to, and the probability that they have a good many of the administrators somewhat terrorized. The probability that Stephen Bingham could have smuggled the gun -- or that he would have -- to George Jackson is virtually nil. Jackson and the other two Soledad Brothers have said many times they expected to be killed, that the guards had threatened them many times, and the other two, Clutchette and Drumgo, still tell their attorneys these things if the attorneys can be believed. As you know, these has been a series of killings at San Quentin in the past several months, culminating in the stabbing murder of an unarmed guard at SQ two or three weeks before Jackson's incident occurred. Other cons and ex-cons have said several times someone was going to have to pay for the murder of that guard, who was stationed at the prison hospital to protect an inmate informer who was being kept there lest the other cons assassinate him.

Enough for now; we'll write more later.


jdw