

6 Sept. 1972

Dear Harold:

This will attempt to clean up a number of things that have accumulated from your letters through # 4 before they get entirely away from us.

In your Aug. 19 you ask about getting the Swahili script for Uhuru, which I believe means freedom, but don't take my word. I have one possibility but haven't had a chance to follow it up. I'm not optimistic, since I believe the script used is adapted from Arabic, so I would be reluctant to trust anyone who wasn't a real scholar. I'll still try when I can, but don't get your expectations too high, as I suspect my black friend knows no more Swahili than I. Had you thought of asking someone at Howard U?

I've made a note to tell you of a curious little thing that had us vaguely worried for a while. On Aug. 26 the Examiner (pigmy Saturday edition) to which no one pays any attention, had a three sentence item on or near the society page saying that Mayor Joseph Alioto was leaving the next day for a two-weeks vacation at Cape Cod, Mass., with retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren. It said he also would attend a mayors meeting in Syracuse, N.Y. and return here Sept. 11, and that this was his first vacation longer than a weekend in more than two years.

This interested us because we never had heard of Alioto being chummy with Warren before, although it is well known that Warren was more nearly bipartisan than any of the supposedly bipartisan California governors in the days of cross filing, and it is well known that he always has despised Nixon. Still, we were concerned that a veteran machine Democratic wheel like Alioto would trundle off to a place as near the Kennedy family as Cape Cod with a man of Warren's special knowledge. As if they were going to seek permission for something.

A few days later, the Chronicle's topical columnist Herb Caen ran a brief item elaborating a bit, saying that their wives went along and that the foursome were the guests of Fairmont Hotel owner Ben Swig at his Cape Cod home. Swig for years has been one of the main money bags for the Democrats here, and for some reason Warren always stays at the Fairmont when here, rather than at the recognized "Republican" hotel, the St. Francis. Alioto and Swig both were big for Humphrey before the convention, and thus far appear to have been less than overjoyed with McGovern, although both make a show of supporting him. In any case, Alioto was back in town yesterday, the 5th, to greet Nixon when Dick & Pat came here to "dedicate" the Golden Gate National Recreational Area which Congress has yet to approve and which the military has yet to be persuaded it should vacate. We have seen absolutely nothing to indicate that Alioto and Warren tried to get anyone on Cape Cod to agree to anything, but I thought you'd be interested.

Re Sony head cleaners. As far as we know they're perfectly okay. You can get just as good results with a Q-tip and alcohol.

Re your problem of dubbing from one TC40 to another. Highly unlikely the patchcord is responsible. Where the impedance is the same in both machines there should be no problem with such a simple operation. Sounds like the input volume control on the receiving machine was not doing its job. You could have checked by sending the signal in the opposite direction..

Regarding the story from Denver on Dr. Morgan, as far as we could determine, no metropolitan paper in this area carried it, and we recall no radio treatment of it, which means television probably passed it too. The story broke ~~xxx~~ late for Saturday morning papers, which are usually slim, and Saturday afternoon papers also are bare-bones jobs, usually by publishers who want to sell their big Sunday editions crammed with advertising and which hit the streets only a few hours later. You might be interested to know that we wrote to the librarian at the Denver Post, sending a dollar and asking for a copy of any story they ran on ~~xxx~~ Morgan's talk and also asking for the name of some official of the Rocky Mountain Radiological Society who might be able to provide a transcript. No word yet, and I shall be suprised if there is any.

On Wecht, we have sent you everything we've seen except for the NO States¹Item abbreviation of the NY Times version, copy of which is enclosed.

The NY Times, by the way, apparently ignored Morgan. They did not have him in their Saturday edition, nor in the edition of their Sunday paper which we got in order to check. Then on Monday they had a strike and published but did not distribute, so apparently they just said to hell with him.

You mention in a note mailed Aug. 14 that you have an extra copy of Lattimer's piece in what I take to be Physicians and Residents. If you don't need it, we would be glad to have it, and thanks, but don't give it up if there's any chance that you might need it.

In your note mailed Aug. 26 you say for the first time what you have hinted at before, that you suggested to Wecht that he lodge disaccreditation charges against the experts. Agree this would have been a hard move to counter, coming from him, and that it would have stood a much better chance of accomplishing something. Agree the press probably would have avoided it if it thought it could. What would depend.

We have a copy of a note from you to Paul dated 8.23.72 regarding the Bremer diary. I cannot make out just what you intend. We would be glad to have a copy, but are we to approach Paul directly on this? And there is a pencilled note at the end which I read: "When you speak to Hal V, please." Please what? I think this is something one should have, and we are grateful for your thought. But before we initiate something that might cross up something you intended, would you please be a little more explicit? Whatever, we shall be glad to pay for a copy and look forward to seeing even what appears to be an edited version. And if we are to get in touch with Paul directly, I must impose upon you and ask that you give us his address again. You did some time ago, at our request, but I neglected to make a note of it and it's buried somewhere in a

A note to us dated 8.28.72 mentions Frances Fitzgerald. I suppose you know she is supposed to be the daughter of Marietta Tree and Desmond Fitzgerald, the latter dying of a reported heart failure on the tennis court in his home in or near Alexandria, Va., a few years ago. He was a ~~shuzzzzzz~~ wheel in the Southeast Asia section of the CIA, and as I recall it was a CBI veteran.

Re your recent contacts with Pacifica, mentioned in a note dated 8/29/72, I called KPFA and talked to Joe Belden, the great kid who is their news director. He hadn't heard of any feed from either KPFA or Washington involving you, was much interested, said he would check and call back if he found out anything. Since then nothing. Perhaps he's still checking. In any case hold your tape until we can give him a little more time. We'd like to hear what you're willing to say publicly on this matter (Watergate) but if KPFA comes through with something it would waste your time to send the tape. If they don't we'll let you know.

While the Watergate affair is before us, I've thought of one possible justification in Republican minds for bugging the Democrats, suggested by the remark by the Miami photographer who made the copies of the documents for two of the bugging crew. This was his mention that he saw the Kennedy name on the documents, which suggests that one thing the Republicans badly wanted to know for quite some time was whether Ted was or was not going to be in the race. In the minds of some of them, this could have seemed of paramount importance. However I am still inclined to feel that if any kind of a collective decision was involved it would have been to steer clear of such a futile, foolish and unnecessary enterprise.

I come to the copy of your letter to Dr. Morgan (your second) and rise to applaud your skill at concealing what we refer to as a postcard from the series we did some years ago to befuddle a friend. You back the gentleman into the corner he has made for himself and do it so gently that he probably still is wondering just what has hit him.

And your copy of the letter to Marshall. Superb. You say all the things that need to be said, none that should not be, and you nail him to the mast.

I think this brings us up to date, except for separate enclosures which may involve separate notes.

Best,

jdw