

MAR 12 1974

Dear Jim,

3/11/74

The enclosures with your 3/6, here today, look very interesting. (Apologies- periodically I got a ribbon the grommets of which slip through and the dealer has not been able to fix it.) But because with 1 1/2 hands I have much I must do outside, I begin to respond to the letter on a break from it.

We seem to be having an extraordinarily early season. It caught me by surprise, I guess one of the reasons I worked too long without a break yesterday and probably ~~grew~~ grew a bit careless over it. The dwarf fruit ~~tree~~ trees are showing color through tight buds, things like that. (With a 20° reading long after sunup I wonder ...)

So, I must finish cleaning up after my clearing operations and get to spring work. This includes planting what I could save of what the backhoe took up. I've done about all the grading.

No, the plumbing hurt. Without yet having built a new wellpit the cost is over \$500. But we do have water, thanks.

The pattern you speak of is there. There is an additional pattern, one that repeats itself as this one does. It could be part of the same.

The real problem comes from the probability of the sick getting turned on. I've had a fair amount of experience with this with people turned on by the assassinations who have been in touch with me. They are not uncommon, alas.

We now have I think three news people involved, none from liberal ownership or what the rational would call liberal policies. Of these the one where reasoning can be detected, rational reasoning, is the one where so many questions exist. Knowland. No, four, Hearst. Anything but liberal, too. (The wife was incredible as aired on TV this a.m., even for the farright ~~xxx~~ unreasonable, making me think she is the unthinking.)

This whole thing got a little more complicated for me this a.m. when I heard the new, the clear Pat Hearst tape. To believe what she said is her own belief is to consider that she was part of the kidnapping. The believe that she said what she was told to say is not hard.

Some of the kids of the farright are in sometimes unrecognized protest. What they have been told is the way it is they can't accept and they can't confront loving wrong parents.

Aside as a sample: Judy, the sweet and pleasant young woman who is consolidating the index cards, appears to come from very conservative Pennsylvania Dutch stock. I have seen less of her lately because mid-term work has been dumped on with vengeance. But she wanted to come and cook manicottis for us, so this week I got the makins and she did come yesterday. As I'd told you, the local formerly all-girl's college (which still has almost no men students) went streaking I think last Wednesday night, maybe 15% of them. Now this school was established for and caters to the conservative. I believe this is the largest percentage of any college to streak. This is more exceptional because all were women with the possible exception of two men who could have been townies. Why among women's colleges, no report of which I am aware of any streaking where the liberals send their daughters? And why so large a percentage here?

I had a notion that one of the other students I'd met went for it. I asked and Judy confirmed. She is the daughter of a real ultra. I'll see her soon and I'll ask motive. There may be none or none of ~~her~~ which she is aware.

These kids are too bright to go for the rubbish that is the faith of their parents. Why not the Hearst kid?

On it, I agree with your analysis of Hearstian stupidity. I saw it the same stupid way when pater stalked off TV to be followed by hireling. This was a foolish posturing that had to have been recognized as having the potential you outline. I see no need for this arrogant challenge. If Hearst lacked the funds himself he could have passed off other funding as his or he could have just ignored the difference. Or he could have made secret deals on funding. Whatever the answer, it represents the kind of thinking no sane kid could live with today.

All of this is further complicated by the special needs of the spooks, who are in very serious trouble if a single major element of the media or a single articulate legislator sounds off, and by the urgencies of the dangerously sick GL. If the Congress and the media (note early a.m. Newsweek comments) or even either did the possible ~~hex~~ is done save for a coup. (I will address several things separately.) "heels within...best