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It may interest you to know that with the built-in mike, the TC-40 gave me the best tape yet of an interview with Ray. I had a tie-clip mike of reputed sensitivity wired to one of the cords you sent and I used the Sony mike you gave me in experiments before leaving. I abandoned efforts to use the tie-clip mike because the results were inferior. Although I took the Sony mike, the results were so close on audio checking prior to going to the prison I decided to take a risk. I placed the machine with the mike facing Ray, whose voice does not record well and is of low level. Pickup on him was better than in my earlier interview with the VOM machine and better than Bud's on his large Sony. What surprised me in the pickup on my own, when the built-in mike was pointed away from me. It was good. I have not had time to play the entire tape(s), but a spot check of the last part is encouraging. Sony tapes: I could not get any 120s of any kind here, in N.O. or in Dallas! And nobody had any of any size with the audio sensor built-in. So, I got and used regular tapes, not Sonys. Makes me wonder about the merchandising. This is not a hint: I have about a dozen unused cassettes on hand. In Dallas one of the larger electronics shops did have the special mike for the TC-40. When I saw the retail price, \$35, I didn't even ask to try it. The literature says it has a built-in preamp, which might be an advantage. It is quite small, perhaps 5/8" in diameter and less than 3" long, with a device for

holding it. I'll do further checking when I have time in DC, for the future, or ask friends in NYC to get the specs before making another trip (I may have to go to N.O. for a quickie, but I will prefer to duck that because it will have to be by the first of the year, when Lil begins work for Block). On this one I'd have loved to have had an FM bug on me and an associate in a nearby car with a receiver and tape recorder, for historical reasons only. Some of the interviews are not what would have been expected (Wade, doctors, Storey, Burglass, Core, Zelden), some pretty far-out (Garrison, Boxley, Andrews, Guy Johnson, Allan Sweatt). But with these taping was impossible.

I took the VOM in case I had time to dub, but I didn't. And I forgot the phone pickup for the Sony (one I had fits). So, I used the VOM on some phone conversations, just to have an accurate record, and that is the times that machine picked not to record, a whim since first it was intercepted when it was new in summer 1968. The factory has not been able to repair this. One of those of which I thus have no verbatim record is the tacit acknowledgement (confidential) by fired N.O. FBI agent Milton Kaack that he did visit LHO's quarters at the Garner's five times before LHO attracted public attention on Canal St., and that this was not because of LHO's defector history. Immediately after that call I went to transcribe and learned I had nothing. I typed notes while fresh in mind, but they are not verbatim. And the exact words of Shaw's lawyer Panzeca would have had some historical value. He was surprisingly candid, admitted that he knew LHO had accomplices, that he and Russo had at least met. He has two large notebooks on Perry Russo he did not have to use in trial. I will want to see them some day. I've been typing this while Lil has been preparing to go to town. It is very foggy, so I haven't yet seen the blanket in daylight, which I want to do before mailing it. Jim was right in the letter he wrote while I was away. I'll be at the P.O. again day after tomorrow, the 11th, and will probably mail then. Best, HW