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Dear Js,

11/4/72

Recent days have been more confusing than usual because of a number of added problems, some of which I've not yet addressed. So, I'm not sure, but I think that as I nibbled away at the valuable enclosures with Jim's 9/29, where notes seemed appropriate I've made and enclosed or sent. One of these unanticipated nastinesses gave Lil a rather severe headache accompanied by an impairment of balance, so I didn't make my morning walk and I've not left the house except to get the mail. She is napping now. I don't want the phone to ring and her to come and get me if I am 4-500 feet away mowing grass. (The weather has turned so that this may be the season's last mowing of grass-much weed and vine and briar cutting to be done, tho.) This is but one of a number of emotional problems the inevitable consequence of the kind of life we have led for so many years. Poor Lil, on whom so much of it fell and falls!

As I've said before, tho, you have an unerring instinct with your kindnesses. This one exactly coincided with one of the new problems and side from its intrinsic value, which is appreciated, was also a welcome temporary cheerer-upper. Thanks. We've not gotten the contract yet and haven't been billed for it. I'm satisfied there is more wrong than having been gypped with the out-of-date paper. I could observe this as the machine warmed up in use as I copied the WG indictment for you. On that, by the way, no responses not sent.

I hate to burden you with even knowledge of the realities here, but I also feel that without some awareness much may be misunderstood. I've made carbons of some of the letters I've had to write but think I haven't sent any. We've had to apply for medical assistance despite paying something over \$850.00 + a year, and the bureaucrats have messed it up, gone crazy in their own regulations, and humiliated us without need. That is what set this attack off in Lil. I'm fighting it more for precedent than for us. There is some old and bitter bitch behind it, for reasons I can only guess. I forced a hearing, which cost as much as I would imagine will ultimately be involved, and the State hearing office gave them a polite dressing down and ordered them to correct their heads and papers. So, they have taken it out in harassment. I feel so sorry for the uneducated, inarticulate forced to such needs for help from this, my first experience!

This, daily and unwanted Ray work and other things forced departure from my preference and practise, to answer letters promptly so they won't stack up.

Agree with uptight analysis on Martha. I think I've sent or am sending everything new I have, including lined-up agents and publishers who want her book. If she has an honest ghost, could be something. After the election.

Prisoners, also agreed. I caught a bit of some of the TV on return and have the impression that the "expedition" was finessed a bit. But for those who would see, the position and lusts of the government were clear enough.

Your comment on Hoffa and an expected humane touch was perfectly timed. As I've told you, most nights CBS's Chicago all-news station thunders in here. When I want something to seize my mind on retiring or as happened the night your letter came, if I just want to listen to news for the few minutes until Lil gets to bed, I take a tiny and working if long-suffering transistor pocket set to bed with me. That night the signal was great and so was Hoffa, already being aired when I turned the set on. It was late and we were both tired. Lil could make enough of it out in the ~~bedroom~~ adjoining bathroom. Unfortunately, the rather good Zenith allwave we have in the bedroom was in the shop because I loosed the external aerial needed on FM, a need because after more than a year our old but fine hifi is unrepaired and in the same shop. So, maximum volume on the little set was not quite enough for her to hear over the running water and hear all. There was this long interview or speech by Hoffa on in-jail conditions. He pulled no punches, going after everybody. His approach was precisely your word, "humane". And his criticism is that it is all designed to be the opposite. I don't think I can recall a more effective or "humane" indictment of the entire sick system. He also said what I didn't know, that most wardens are up-from-the-ranks guards, which guarantees the wrong men with the wrong and often sadistic attitudes. You sure hit Hoffa right! I hope his criticism get printed so they can be used with effectiveness. Coming from him they'll reach and can influence more than George Jackson or Eldridge Cleaver.

WOR leak. I was aware of the plant, for it doesn't deal with reality, and WOR has a long history in them. It is used by the far-rights, including "self-starters". CIA types.

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Philippines: I hadn't thought that it could be a new Thailand, but with the nuts we have, they might really try it! White House sanction? Is there anything this one can't? I'm without doubt even without knowledge that this is a manufactured thing. My instinctive reactions was that it was the only way Marcos conceived out of his and friends' box. If you later get interested in this, I had the old National Guardians in which Pomeroy's original writings appear, from his Huk days. I'd have to know the dates or ship boxes! I then didn't clip them because they covered too much. Including Burchett, whose first book on VN I also have somewhere.... Good to know there is at least one popular leader, if his perspective is limited. That can be broadened, as I would expect developments to have the potential. If he gets out! It sometimes helps to have a popular leader in jail. Serves to collect and consolidate. Not as good as not having him jailed, but better than having no flagpole... I do remember Magsaysay and that also-mysterious crash. Strange how only the good guys die that way. Can you think of any but the rare exception, like Jones with his cash for Ike, a potential Watergate of that era, out there? (I was part of an investigation of him, too. Name them, dairy! to paraphrase Mary Astor. Or were you abroad when he diary was published or leaked?)

Vacation: what you describe is probably the most restful thing you can do.

OSS book: How common is it for a review copy to get to your office. The place for stories on such a subject is DC. Unless your office has a review service for state clients. Any loose story could kill real play. I wonder. Any reason to? Any reason to believe the UC press lets itself be used, as other parts of the universities do?

Kleindienst quote: Thanks. That's the one I heard but saw nowhere.

Long letter from former radical-right young friend today details mostly not new strange N.O. antics. Nothing on Gervais. What was interesting is his reporting of hearings he apparently attended. Shilstone and Robertson said that they have been out of contact with Garrison, haven't been able to get to him, have not gotten return messages from him, or letters, and don't even know how he spent their money. I believe! I may have sent carbon of earlier letters. His name is Jim. What he said about the assassinations keeps him out of law school, he says. He was planning ministry when I met in 1968. Really gung ho young man. Met me at airport in November, drove me around, even offered me (impractical) use of his Long Beach home (he also worked for Ronnie Caire there). So dedicated I had to drive him to leaving me so he could see his brother before brother left for Army. He gets Bitch (best kind of typo!) Birch literature. Offers copy Stang. My Congressional record copy is a xerox and the small type might be unclear unless you have sharp eyes. Would you like it straight from American Opinion?

Got an advance copy Nader task-force book on Congress, Who Runs Congress? This one doesn't tell all if table contents is indication. Maybe who owns it, but neither the t.c. nor the index, which merely lists the committees, shows essential focus that merely centers on committee chairmanships. From his press conference, part of which I heard on the NPR DC station while bathing yesterday, he has at least a fair understanding of that. Maybe it will be in the successor volume. Bantam did a "special" on it, but unlike the skin stuff, no advance promo, no pushed distribution. My local (and only local except new Walden) bookstore called this morning to ask what the students were asking for! Walden just opened a large store in a shopping center miles from the two local small colleges, one community.

Reminds: I meant to ask, if I didn't, if you have a local outlet that carries Nat. Pub. Radio reporting. WETA has the best non-local FM signal here, so good that despite our being in fringe area with large hill between it comes in well on Craig without extending aerial! They sometimes b'cast entire Congressional hearings. If there are any that would interest you on tape and it is not repeated by Pacifica or available through an NPR station, let me know. I've decided that broke or not, with \$200 in our Wollensak 7" reel-to-reel stereo I have to get it fixed. When the hifi is fixed, and with .5 mil mylar, I can tape for six hours without touching! The tuner is Scott, amplifier Bogen, and I'll be able to patch directly. In fact, the patchcords came with the Wollensak. So, don't be bashful if you hear of such hrgs. When I think of it I'll inquire into their program magazine. I suspect that special b'casts will be in the Post daily, so once this is set I can probably follow that way. It would be no sweat. Problem with hifi is that a crook has it. I've written him to return it repaired or unrepaired. When he got it, it had a socket in which the tube made poor and intermittent contact. By now, with long delay, he has probably loused something up. I've found a good local shop for the orthodox by having to get undone what this guy did to our TV aerial. Oh, well. ~~such~~ such is life outside the big city as in it. Thanks much and best