

10/30/72

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Dear Js,

Sorry for you and lucky for me that the mail was late today and that "il decided to go out for it. She returned with the most beautiful branch of turned maple I can remember (the lucky for me part, I look at it and enjoy) and your letter of the 26th, which leads to the unlucky for you part.

This a.m.'s paper listed the broadcast of the interview with John Paton Davies I'm sending you. Thought you might be interested in it, so I decided to hear and tape as, thanks to you, I now can. It had just started when Lil finished your letter (the mail is that late, the one mail a day) and from her expression I started reading it as she handed it to me. So, I don't know what is on the tape, whether it is worth your listening to or not. I know the reverse side, of Clark MacGregor, interviewed in Public TV by Elizabeth Drew, is not. Big disappointment.

Appreciate the time you took on acupuncture. I've written my chemist brother-in-law and less emotional sister and am sending the clips, which we both read promptly. On acupuncture, that is. Haven't looked at the others yet, save to see if any are for return (the one so marked is, thanks. Plus a copy of the relevant beginning of the letter.

I have a notion my mother was really asking for my opinion, could it help her. She didn't say or really indicate. If she was not and if it can help, I'm glad to know anyway. My Wilmington (older) sister would be passionate after deciding and she is so emotional she could decide it is witchcraft and make life miserable for everyone, including herself, for she'd believe it. So, it will take a bit longer for my mother to be talked to, beginning as it will west of Philadelphia.

We are fascinated. I'm glad to know because the time may come when I'll want to know for Lil. Arthritis in her fingers has ended some of the most beautiful embroidery, with a long size 10 dress (intended for a niece who lost interest in it) in the closet, almost done, and I don't know anyone who can fit it (hint). Lil is closer to I think 16.

If I know some are fakes, I'm by no means persuaded that all the so-called flying saucer stories are, so your theory on earth-colonizing is also fascinating and as much sense as anything I'd heard. As someone once asked, "illiterate or something" as I am, I didn't even know about the Ch'in Dynasty. Is that, by the way, the first book burning?

Also appreciate the inflated value of the extra copies of the Post. Didn't go into town today, but they are holding one I'll get in the a.m. There is a Post version of the TIME story (Haldeman's job) and several others you may find interesting, much less on "peace" (already in class M, and a vonHoffman column on topless radio, of which I'd never heard. I'm agreed that this will not die down after the election. I think it will get a new and quite scandalous life because it will be useful in the next election, throughout the coming administration, will come to trial, and is far from plumbed. Besides, the continuing attack on the Post gives it little choice but to fight back before it is clobbered. If they indict, the case will be in DC and there the Post is read. Besides in Congress, which hasn't yet disappeared or abdicated entirely.

Now if you would celebrate your retirement, which should be better than Xmas, with a scarf adorned with the ideographs for Watergate, I would recommend two things: a more precise sketch and a color preference (like his and hers). Lil likes the idea. I'd show it to the Post reporters and solicit sales first! Fact is, Lil has already said ~~what~~ shway mun before I knew what it is.

You've got a great post office. They always miss the third of three stamps.

And responding was much more fun than what I'd started, still another commentary on the "ay habeas corpus where I'm still correcting basic factual errors and other things no less uncongenial at this point. With Lesar away for a week, I took time off for a little personal work long overdue. We'll have a New Orleans reading when he returns. That is where he and his wife are going for a radiologists bash. She is that and Chinese. Not bash.

We lined our 19-year-old, betroubled, 6 ft+, 250 lbs+ nephew up for a ~~job~~ job in a local factory where he will begin working in molding and can be an apprentice. He was ecstatic when he phoned to tell us that from now on it is downhill! He'll be getting \$2.37 an hour, time and a half Saturdays, which they are now working, can retire at \$300 a week a 39 (he thinks he won't be quite over the hill then and can continue to hold a part-time job), gets a raise the first of the year under the union contract. All he has to do is what he didn't say, stay out of jail when he's really guilty, at least technically.

And get up in time to be at work by 7, for if he isn't he'll stop a production line and won't last long. And start maturing, which isn't easy if it has been discouraged and you have deep emotional problems. I have gotten him a lawyer who seems willing and interested and have given the lawyer a legitimate Miranda defense (I was there) and a false-arrest case on another matter where he was completely innocent, the cops lied and said they had a warrant when they didn't, and they dragged him off the street, out of his car, in handcuffs yet. He used his one call for me. They let him go. I had his mother hit the horn with a what for? and they assured her they had destroyed the files, so don't worry. Meanwhile I have the complaining witness (who did not swear out a warrant) on tape giving him a good character, fine character endorsement and saying the whole gruesome thing was the figment of a sick neighbor's depraved imagination. So, for the guilty I guess he is in as good a shape as possible if his lawyer is on the ball. Imagine, the charge was undressing a girl in her mother's absence and throwing her onto or off of a balcony and there was no investigation before arrest, and that warrantless. The cops had earlier told the mother and him they'd be arresting him on an attempted manslaughter charge on the same thing. They have actually done so much to prejudice the case that with a decent judge that should be enough. Like indicting needlessly after he was charged and on bail, rearresting him in the courtroom in the presence of the judge on a spurious charge; getting a bench-warrant for his arrest for arraignment when they hadn't served a summons and didn't have to, I'd have accompanied him in for it if they'd have phoned. They were stupid enough to write his mother's office phone number on the back of the unnecessary warrant and they didn't call her, either. In the little looking into this that I've done, it seems that the cops make one arrest for a crime in a certain area and before trial mark all the others solved and in the records attribute it to the accused. My source is a sheriff, not just an ordinary deputy. He is one I turned on years ago in a speech, is now also a lawyer, and is outraged but powerless. Meanwhile, with pros hard to catch, they lean on the kids, use shotgun indictments (the kid has nine charges on this one offense, where he did little but stand by), and following the Hoover dictum, create figures to make themselves look good. In this case, if they go to trial, they may face a few surprises. There was a stakeout, the cops first arrested the ringleader after a breakin, let him go, and one of the kids who stole a car actually stole a set of police tags while the cops were watching and got away after bolting them on under lights. Some stakeout, eh? If the lawyer is willing, if the case goes to trial, as I'd prefer it not with him, there will be such a story the cops won't bother him again. These statistics may be regarded as the means to promotion. So, in one case, the spurious one, there is a codefendant charged with the same forgery, in which they have actually charged four with the single signature, who was in jail at the time of the forgery! Nephew wasn't there, either. Nor was the fink, who talked to me. He just got a year on a carnal knowledge charge, fink or no fink. He'll testify! He has already told me what the cops knew before nephew confessed having been told there was no warrant against him: that there was a rifle to his head to get him to drive his car. Who held the rifle? The older kid charged with forgery while he was in jail. Awful! All the kids had home problems and hassles from the cops who were bucking reputations, so the not bad were looking for a way to "split" to get the cops off their backs and the bad were just bad. What I am really saying is that aside from dope-inspired, much property crime is society's fault, and of that a fair percentage attributable to the protectors of society. In detail this is new to new, and has been disagreeable. And has taken some time. However, if the kid overcomes his emotional problems, he'll be a better man for it. He didn't realize it, but when he phoned to tell us of the job, he called me "dad". Could be slang, but it is slang he's never used before. Lil and I answered the phone on the same ring. They didn't know I was on it. He asked her if "dad" were here. She hasn't commented. I think his subconscious or unconscious was bespeaking his need.

I've been rambling. Back to work, Many thanks.

