

5 August 1974

Dear Harold:

Herewith a few crumbs which the Post may have neglected.

The STM continues to improve, thank you, and we've even been able to return to the Chinese manu part of the time. Caution has to be exercised because of vegetable fibers. She feels much better in general and has only an occasional twinge.

From the way you described your memo on the Libergott conversation, I feel sure we've never seen it. I don't think I'd forget having seen all that detail you describe.

No news on the KPFA situation, except that the Pacifica board is supposed to be negotiating with the strikers. I'll let you know how it comes out.

Now that the tide has turned so dramatically against GL, we sense the return of the option-weighting season in Nixonland, especially in view of all the renewed talk of resignation. It occurs to us here that both resignation and invocation of the 25th Amendment have to be viewed in terms of what they imply in the way of pension, salary, payment of lawyers ~~fees~~ fees, and, most of all, immunities. Without trying to spell all this out, it would seem that if GL ever is to negotiate a deal with his tormentors he had better get busy. Beyond this, there is the possibility of creating and using a grave national ~~emergency~~ emergency to his own ends, assuming one doesn't come along on its own. Since we both still feel very strongly ~~that~~ that GL simply will not be able to endure the disgrace and humiliation of impeachment and conviction, and since Cyprus has been allowed to simmer without an attempt to exploit it, we therefore are looking for symptoms of a deal being negotiated, but thus far have failed at this distance to catch any scent. Perhaps you may have picked up something.

Somewhat in this connection, I have been corresponding with a man in England who has contributed an interesting rumor. He is an economist, apparently a Socialist or in that camp, and is keenly interested in Watergate and the whole prospect of Nixon's political demise. In his last letter he wondered what the American role really has been in the Cyprus conflict and whether it wasn't part of a larger pattern. He had picked up a report to the effect that the Russians have demanded of Romania a military corridor to Bulgaria, and wondered if the Cyprus blowup wasn't somehow involved in an American response to such a challenge.

In the reply which I attempted, I told him I felt that Nixon was far too busy trying to fight off impeachment to stick his neck out very far in the Mediterranean, that I thought any such Russian demand was just more of the same Czarist-Soviet groping toward deep water (and warm water), and that from the available evidence -- that both Nikos Sampson and Archbishop Makarios were in the pay of the CIA -- any American role in the actual outbreak on Cyprus probably was ambivalent and mostly likely it meant only that the Greek military were trying to get us involved more deeply. Anyway, if you should pick up anything on the alleged Soviet demand on Romania I would be interested in it.

The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy underdog's back. Underdog, get it? Fleebus-bitten, too. I wipe away a tear and remain,

jdw