

JUL 26 1975

7/25/75

Dear Jim,

Thanks for your two notes of the 22nd and the very thoughtful and appreciated enclosures. I hope I'll be able to send a copy of PM soon. (It may actually run 660 or 672 pp. Couldn't check at post office this a.m. on weight tolerances for 2-lb shipping rate. Think 1 lb 15 oz.)

I'm somewhat tired today, probably because I got a mite more sleep, couldn't take a morning walk and after a rain couldn't mow. May seem odd, but if I get a little more sleep it does tire me more, or I feel that way. Yesterday was only the fourth time this year I was able to take an a.m. walk. I could have made it as far as I went last year but didn't because the back, where hurt, was aching. Pretty good because I walked briskly and it was all steeply up. And then I got a rough siege of mowing in weeds some over 6 ft. high for an hour. After a bout of that I sweat more than a half hour very profusely and, hopefully, drop a few of the winter's accumulated ounces. Trouble is when I sweat this way I can't wear glasses and without them I can read. Anyway, I'm tired today and from it a little unclear on what Les Whitten told me unless I told you then. This is re the Schweiker tape I'm glad to get.

I think I told you I got a cheap, non-mineralized machine to use in the car. I listen to tapes when I'm driving instead of music and what is hardly news. (NBS's here is stinky any time of the 24 hours.)

As I remember it, Whitten said that Schweiker says he said what he did merely for acceptability. That he doesn't really mean it but has to pull something like this for credibility and political tolerance. Now I wonder if this was confidential. Anyway, that is my recollection.

(References to the weather: We've had some bad stuff. Three days of dangerous pollution, days I walked and worked without feeling it this time, all with 90+ temp. We've had the heaviest rains, as I suppose the news out there reported. Unusual.)

I'm awaiting a delayed guest.

I agree with your opinion on "breaks" and PM's prospects. It is a much larger book, much more diffuse, so I can't compare it with WWIV, which I was able to launch by essentially simple radio by-phone broadcasts. It will probably have to be a \$10.00 job, too, which will reduce sales. However, if I can more promptly enough the situation is ripe for it, with the Congress on the subject and with a little prospect of its interests. But part of the reason I've been trying for ancillary sales is to get it attention. Trouble is long ago I made the compromises and decided that the single most important thing, with all this work nobody else is doing, is to a) get it down and b) then out, regardless of form. Time taken to reform means another book could be done. And as you've a glimmer, there are many other matters to be attended, fights to be fought. Spent two days preparing for one with Arch. centered around withheld public docs and then got a stalling letter so I had to lay aside. As I did the drafts for the add to PM when JL said he found about 50 more pp. he hadn't given me. I have to go over them before I dare write any more. ~~But~~ While there was still too much to do, it made me stop that writing.

I'd hoped to have a young woman college student for two days ~~tax~~ with a little art training, ~~xxxx~~ who was going to wax up some of the appendix for me. Now it is one day and I'll not take the time to teach it for that short time. I could get enough done in the teaching time for her time to be worth more consolidating index cards. Her b.f is coming up tomorrow with this papers from Lesar and don't copy yet - what he spotted in yesterday's NYTimes if they have an extra where he gets his. He said several stories I'd want. If I get it I'll send you a note. (The clips today all added to what I had, thanks.)

If I can't interest anyone in a major PM story, maybe a Congressional speech can make the splash. Printing time will be close to 30 days so I'll probably have time from a set of blues or a mailed copy or two. (No new word from Playboy or Argosy.)

Many thanks,

