

MAR 18 1976

Dear Jim,

3/16/76

Thanks for taking the time for the 3/11 letter on China. Very informative, as the excellent review is. After Lil reads it I'll send it to Howard who will, I'm sure, find it informative.

With four good China books out at one time this is a changed world.

NYC trip tiring but successful. I think I got enough proofs out of Dell's files to perhaps persuade them to offer an out-of-court settlement. They have no record of a printing of an edition of Whitewash of which I have copies, no record of the British edition, covered in the initial contract, and none of sales in countries in which I know it was sold in violation of the contract. I have a copy from Holland.

They don't have the contract for the sale of the original underground book or the bill I ~~submitted~~ submitted when they were shipped. But they do have a notation of the receipt and they had to pay for unsold copies. When I showed this it made a ~~small~~ change.

My friend Les told me a bit about his SLA book. He had inside sources. I think it will be a fairly definitive one. He has details on crimes that fascinate, on how those who did not kill got themselves convicted and who did it. I don't know how much of this he's used in the book, which he has turned in.

I'm pleased and surprised at how much walking I could do. Long ones because there are so few hills in Manhattan and none as steep as around here. With what cabs now cost it helped that way, too.

Pulled a joke on my CBS friend: I walked most of the way from Baltimore to Aberdeen. I did, too. On the train. The bus trip numbed my feet a bit so I walked in the aisle. That does it by making the blood work.

The Lanier worked beautifully. I wrote a chapter from the Susquehanna to past Newark, finishing in time to get off the train when it stopped. The clarity of the end of the second side is excellent. It filtered the background noise very well, too. I don't think I'll be able to try the dubbing tomorrow. It is scheduled to be one of those Playboy days. They called me in New York last night and I set the correcting for tomorrow. It is ever so much more convenient to have a gadget no harder to hold than a pack of cigarettes.

As you will gather from the enclosed, my leaning on Jerry seems to have done it again. I've probably not told you what was afoot.

I'm surprised you have only one all-news station in Frisco area. In Washington there are three, none of which I get at night. One is FM only at night and I use an AM only set that has been partly broken for years. But we do have fading problems on stations I can get nights. There are others, as I think there should be within your reception area since NBC radio stations have gone all-news. They are not uncommonly FM stations. Their content is fairly much local, so I never bothered to log those I picked up nights from the other side of the Mississippi. (My daytime sampling of the NBC stuff does not persuade me to make the effort.

New York has an FM station that ~~now~~ broadcasts only the weather report around the clock. The small amount of listening I did, by accident this early morning, included no commercials...We just missed another blizzard (I hope). If the temperature had been two degrees lower this late afternoon we'd not have had a heavy rain with wind that was at least 50 mph. Boy! Was I glad to be home!

Again thanks and best,

