

6 March 1978

Dear Harold:

Sorry to have been such a lousy correspondent, but I was doing a long personal writing job and didn't feel like leaving it unfinished. Glad you called the other day. You sounded fine, the same as always.

I'm still planning on leaving here late in March, see a number of people going across the country, and should arrive in the WX area some days before the middle of April. There are a number of people I'll want to see in Maryland and southern Pennsylvania, and will get in touch with you by phone by the 15th if not before.

I had hoped to get the files ready and off to Wrono before leaving, but that isn't going to be possible. Instead, as I think I mentioned on the phone, I'll write to him within a few days proposing that I drop by Stevens Point on the way back from the east coast. That will give him a chance to evaluate me and our approach to what we collected, and he also may be able to suggest things which I can incorporate in winding up the files which would best be done at such a time rather than later, by long distance, as it were. We can discuss all the arrangements, and it would be much better if I know, at least, what his preferences are, whether I am able to conform with them or not. He can ask questions and follow-up questions, etc.

Again, let me say how much I appreciate what you have done in providing and encouraging this connection. Saved me endless trouble and all-too-probable disappointment.

I don't really know how I stay so busy, but suppose doing my own housework, shopping and cooking has something to do with it. In any case, after getting the back issues of the NY Times taken care of and doing some other things toward keeping the files up to date, I started on the long writing job I mentioned. In the meantime I began doing some volunteer work for Hospice, and this continues. Like all such outfits getting started, volunteer help is extremely important to them. They're expanding rapidly (7 nurses on call now as opposed to 3 when we first got involved) and recently held a week's seminar for doctors and nurses from all across the country who want to start Hospices of their own. They even had several of us survivors discuss the receiving end. It's an extremely impressive group, and the movement is snowballing steadily.

After two years of drought, as you know, California has had above average rain this year, all local reservoirs are full, and there'll be a good Sierra runoff to replenish some of the dangerously lowered ground water table in the central valley. It has rained nearly every day for the last two months, at least, but all the really damaging storms have hit in the L.A. area. Not much damage up this way except one MV house which slid off its hill which got too saturated. It would have gone sometime anyway, probably.

Trust your winter is about over, and that this finds you in good shape. Delighted to hear of the possibility of Jim and Howard pairing up. What a team. Best to both of you,

jdw