

April 19, 1969

X 20003

Dear Boris:

We--Elizebeth and I-- had firmly intended to get off the draft papers relating your biography so that they would be there when you arrived home from your round-the-world trip. And here it is time for you to arrive there and we are just getting off a letter. I am sorry to say that my health is again the cause of considerable indisposition, to "put a good face on it." I have accomplished literally nothing in the past few weeks. I am delighted to report that my power of walking which I fought to get back last autumn is still with me, although it is made infinitely more difficult now by an omnipresent dizziness of a terrifying degree.

been The realization that "the hour was late" for writing you, and that we had very dilatorily about keeping our promise to you to send along the biographical material came very forcibly last Sunday when the very article you had mentioned in your last letter appeared here as a featured article in the Washington POST, Outlook Section--the very same, namely: by Philip Norman, London Sunday TIMES. It is a very good article, by the way. The photograph of you is one with you sitting behind a machine, spoken of in headline as resembling "a one-armed bandit."

As for the biographical material, it is being sent under separate cover. The mails are so dreadful nowadays and there is so much lost and stolen mail, that one almost shudders to have to use postal service. We are enclosing a list, such as it is, of the items in the package, one with the package itself, and one with this letter.

It is with exceeding regret that I was unable to follow through with the biography; and I sincerely hope that you will have success in finding an objective and excellent biographer. With the sending off of this package I am sending you all the material I have. This is the only copy, unfinished as it may be. The tapes, I trust, are still in your possession. You will recall that I left them with you as soon as I had transcribed them, and these handwritten transcripts are "originals".

We received your post-card from Hongkong, and glad to know you had such an enjoyable trip. And we hope you will have good weather and a pleasant time while doing the final readying of your apartment in Zug...Please tell Elsa that we reciprocate her kind regards.

With affectionate regards,

[Bill and Elizebeth]