

X 20003

Thursday, February 29, 1968

Eng. Boris C.W. Hagelin,
c/o Crypto-A.G.,
Box CH 6301
Zug, Switzerland.

Dear Boris:

I have two letters from you which so far are unanswered, one dated 4 December 1967 from Minusio, and one dated 30 December 1967 from Sundsvik, acknowledgement of our cable. But the trouble is that there is so little to say that is cheerful either to us or, we assume, to you. The whole world seems to us to be in an awful mess, the U.S. in particular, with apparently no good way of our getting out of our many difficulties. We could of course settle things very quickly in the Far East if it weren't the case that Russia is behind most or all of our troubles in various parts of the world. My anger is especially bad for me because I take it so hard that there isn't anything that we can do, it seems, to counteract Soviet blackmail. That's what it is, pure and simple. But enough of this sort of writing, so let me try to turn to other subjects although pleasant subjects are few and far between.

The upstart Kahn continues to pester us like a misquito. Thank Heaven I was ill in bed under doctor's care when he was in Washington in September -- so our long-time attorney-friend took him (Kahn) on and spared us from seeing him. He came back later on and we worked the same evasive tactic. Then the other day a large envelope came from him from England -- his book came out over there on February 15 and he had sent 10 reviews (mostly, in our opinion, non-reviews) from British papers. Scrawled on stationery of a cheap hotel said "For your Collection" (!!!) There is no guaging the effrontery of such a fourflusher as Kahn. He gave an interview, if you please, to the N.Y. TIMES on the Pueblo incident; and then did it again in England!!

It is with such irritants that our days are punctuated. The rest of the time we bore away at the still unfinished task of completing the annotated bibliography on the Collection.

Since Bill has now complications of the digestive tract, it becomes more and more apparent that he will never be able to finish the biography he had planned of you. Since Kahn has written a considerable part of your biography, I should, in view of my own physical incapacity, like to send to you my handwritten transcripts of all tapes made in 1963. As soon as Elizabeth can prepare them for mailing, we shall try to

get them off to you. Please accept these as my birthday greetings for your next birthday which will be in July, and the fifth year after our delightful month spent with you and beloved Annie at Sandhamn, where the tapes were made.

Sincerely,

P.S. Kahn, after failing twice to get to see us, sent us an autographed copy of his book -- the message filled a whole page. But -- figure this out if you can -- the box it came in had in Kahn's handwriting in the lower left-hand corner: Return Guaranteed.

Postage/