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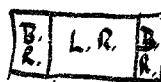
Paris, 8 May 1991

Dear Bud -

(i.e., one of several)

Right: the place in Antibes is an apartment in a small detached villa, set in small, pleasant grounds about 150 yards from the sea; there's pretty good privacy, a view of the sea off in the direction of Juan-les-Pins and Cannes; swimming from rocks you walk to or crowded beaches you drive to. Climate sub-tropical and sunny usually, though a cold grey day is always possible. Antibes itself is charming: ramparts over the sea, superb food market, good restaurants, genuine character. Much else of the Cote d'Azur is also still beautiful; some has been Floridized. The apartment has: a large living room, a small bedroom on one side, a larger bedroom on the other side, a small kitchen, two baths. It is a little sparse in furnishing, probably. (I don't know about linens, but the general rule in France is that one supplies one's own. Which is a bore.) There's a terrace in front for sitting and watching the sea. I was in the apartment once, briefly, years ago. My recollection of the layout: more or less; my recollection of the mood: perhaps a little gloomy inside.

But then it was night.



The price the landlord wants is 3,000 French Francs for the month of September. That's about \$550 - and probably too much for what you're getting. Other places with more light and air, inside, will be available; what they won't have is private (semi-private) grounds and swimming rocks.

If the price, or the possible gloomy interior, puts you off, I have a rental agency in Antibes from which I once rented an apartment in a modern block overlooking the sea: and though it was entirely French-bourgeois, Penny and I were very comfortable and airy there with Olivia in May at age eight weeks. So there are alternatives.

If you do want the apartment, best write right away to confirm it. I know of it from a friend who used to live in the same building for years. Since Penny and I will be away for several weeks starting next Wednesday, best write directly to my friend, who is in regular touch with the landlord; friend's name:

~~Paul~~, sorry, Paul Ress
 % Time-Life News Service
 17, Avenue Matignon
 Paris 8

and he knows he
 may hear from
 you.

If you decide against it, write to me. I can easily set up something like the one P. and I were in.

Meanwhile, what do you think of the attached? I do want to go ahead with a book about the C & BW politics, after molecular biology is done.

Best,
 Horace

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An endless agony, getting it all off again. Just finished Linus Pauling: at least he's loud. Watson whispers, swallows the ends of sentences. You spoke very clearly - which is a damn good thing, because the batteries were worn down, so we got progressively squeakier and faster. I enclose a transcript of part of what you said; I thought it a remarkable impromptu; and your genuine style of discourse is palpable (and pleasing). How did the testimony go? Clearly the result - the Paris Herald Tribune was fairly detailed - the result in substance was right? [Can you send me the testimonies?] And what's next? Any broad future schedule? Another part of the battle, perhaps? What's in these latest Soviet suggestions about splitting CW from BW? The fact of the suggestion is all that's clear here; not the import, not the U.S. reaction.

The portable library managed to shelve a couple or three of your books before it took wing. I recall that you said I might borrow some, but I came away with more than I had realized. Two volumes of Scientific American reprints - molecular biology and genetics; a stray issue of Daedalus (not the one with Pauling's memoir, etc., - I have my own of that issue); and the Cold Spring Harbor symposium papers for 1961, which I can only imagine I ~~totally~~ ~~mistake~~ mistook for the commemorative volume for Delbrück. Anyway, many thanks; you'll have them all back soon.

↳ that, I left you.

Transcribing tapes, I find a couple of questions cumulate retrospectively. One in particular: how quickly does a really important discovery come to be recognized as such? Your remark about the cool reception of Nirenberg's Poly-U set me thinking; then reading articles as late as 1962 in, say, Sci. American, which seem even then a bit grudging about the function, and structure, of DNA; then transcribing Pauling, who likes to make these sweeping claims for when he first thought of - every and anything. So, do you recall, how long was it, after Watson + Crick's first Nature paper, before the import of what they'd done was (a) widely talked about; (b) generally conceded?

I forget whether I'd seen Jim before you left? Anyway, he was more than cordial; yet at the same time impatient. Or restless, better.

Three priceless remarks from my trip:

1. Dulbecco: "We don't do science for the public. We do it for ourselves."
2. Pauling, when asked something fatuous about how he works: "I think the reason I find these things is that I think more about the problems than other people do!"
3. Watson, when asked whether he thought the critics were right to wonder about the competitiveness in The Double Helix: "If anything, I understated it. Competition is the dominant motive in science."

And Watson again, with a glance over his shoulder: "They don't think the way we do. We sometimes think thus do; but they don't!"

Love to you all,

Horace

Been working through Monod's book. I think I was a bit sniffy about it when I saw you. I take that back. It is nearly very good; and he's willing to make the reader think about difficult things.