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Dear David,

First of all: The big apology for the big delay!!! Excuse me, excuse me, excuse me. We can only hope that Czech people will become the civilized nation step by step finally, and they (among them also I) will learn that the writing and answering letters in time belongs to good manners of the decent and educated people.

Just recently I read a joke about two old Jewish men. They met after decades and one apologized to his friend for his silence: "You know, I wanted to write you immediately, but then came first world war, second world war, the years 48, 68, 89...etc..." Similarly I waited for your supposed trip to Czechoslovakia, then came the end of the spring term, then came holidays, then the beginning of the winter term etc. etc. There I got a lesson - never hesitate, do the things immediately!!

Today I met Ross Daly and I realized that it is absolutely necessary to inform you about some pieces singled out from the never-ending stream of events.

When came month of August and the schedule for the winter term has been discussed, suddenly I found out that the course "Investigative Journalism" (although proposed before I left for United States) was omitted, simply forgotten. So I protested and Investigative Journalism was putted into schedule - on Wednesdays at 7.30 a.m.!! If you know our lazy students, you can imagine the interest in such an early course.

Nevertheless I teach a course of 10-15 students. 5-6 of them indicate could be called the "dedicate students" with the active approach to the subject. I was surprised that some of them choose Investigative Journalism only because we have been starting so early - they wanted to be after two hour's workshop free for their journalistic activities out of the school.

We - I and my students - are learning together, since I got the knowledge how to be an investigative reporter in USA but not in Czechoslovakia. We visited the Parliament to find out all the possible sources. It is sad that the system of computerized information started to be operable this autumn, only weeks before this Federal Assembly will cease to exist. We visited the court with libel proceeding (Mr. Slovák versus weekly Reflex).

I have to admit that my students like more to discuss the investigative journalism, especially my experience at the Columbia University, than to do it. For

them is the whole thing "too much time-consuming". Oh, yeah, what to do? I supposed that some investigative reports would be the result of the whole workshop, but we were not able to go so far. We stayed at debates and analysis of well known cases.

Besides I am working on the primer about Investigative Journalism. I compile some translations of Mollenhof, Anderson and Reporter Handbooks with the selection from our Czechoslovak - in two weeks only Czech - legislation concerning the work of journalists. I hope that students of the next course (maybe winter term again) will have at disposal some guidelines of the investigative journalism. But frankly said, the tradition is not here yet, most of the "investigative" reports in our press were actually the leaks from opposing or competing sources.

I write you about my course so explicitly because I would like to get you know that your effort in respect of my stay at your School was not in vain, that there are definitely some results of your work.

When I am looking back at the last year in my life, so I see that my trip to New York and six-week's stay at the Columbia University had a great importance and impact not only on my professional but also on my personal life. I stopped my smoking and I got more self-confidence as a teacher. The gratitude for it should be directed to you. Thank you.

I hope you will visit Czechoslovakia (now Czech Republic) some day again, so I could repay your hospitality in the near future in Praha.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely

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