

29th June 10.

Dear David,

Thanks for your letter and photos; also Baudelaire quotes. // Ever read William Blake, particularly "Songs of Innocence and Experience", "The Marriage of Heaven and Hell"? // The theme in the quotes of Baudelaire is reflected in some by Rimbaud: — "We stand on earth, among our rages and our boredoms. We raise our heads; see passing in the starry skies the banners of ecstasy. Is it God or Satan who paints such skies, so fabulous — and false?" //

You've doubtless read Francis Villon — the pseudonym I intended to use for "The Gates of Janus" before deciding to publish under my own name. // So MC is still in Paris. He was in the boat when the Jackal was hijacked back to France and held there. // Yes, I've seen the portrait he painted of me. There is also a second, by a French killer I knew, based on a photo I used for falsely-named real passports for travelling to Germany, etc. I believed that all such photos and negatives had been destroyed as arranged, until this one surfaced decades later. // Yes, I preferred the secondary roads in all countries, as that is where all the small off-the-beaten-track villages and hamlets are hidden away. My mind is imprinted with day and night images of people and places I would otherwise never have encountered on the main arterial networks, both in Europe and America. Those spots that are stumbled upon by accident are more cherished for being generally unknown and personally significant. Their isolation also ensures that they endure unchanged by progress. // I can still recall in detail many old inns, the people, dogs, scenes of the season and countryside, etc, as well as the food and drink and tobacco. // Many lengthy railway journeys, by steam engine, also remain imprinted; day and night ones. Ditto some of the old stations, large city ones and small country ones with Victorian waiting rooms, with gaslight and little fireplaces with coal scuttles beside, entirely deserted and silent in the aftermidnight hours; perhaps with a languid cat, glad of the unexpected company and possibility of a snack. // Not forgetting travels by motorbike. An old coloured film on television once reminded me of one such, when I discovered that the country scenes were actually shot the year and time I was driving through that district. // To trace a police informer who had fled south, I decided to use a motorbike as the weather forecast promised days of sun. A motorbike in storage;

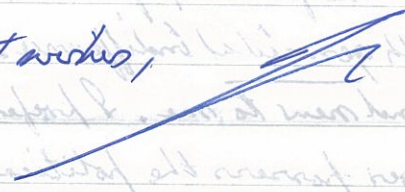
that had been "ringed" for someone who, unfortunately, died in a pub brawl before he could collect, was used for the occasion, as it had been perfectly checked and turned before storage. I set out from Manchester after midnight, the hot day nicely cool, the roads quiet, the engine smooth. Dawn was breaking by 4 AM, as I stopped by a drystone wall for a "breakfast" of cheese and wine packed beforehand in the briefcase on the carrier with other necessary items. Over a field, lights could still be seen in the valley below, and some cows were lazily grazing. When I reached Aldershot - an army town - a phonecall of latest info caused me to veer across country and, serendipitously, through the territory shown in the film. Fruit orchards and hopfields were fragrant in the late morning hot sunshine. As I viewed the beautifully photographed longshots of the countryside shown in the film, decades later in prison, I realised that I could invisibly be crossing the distant panorama. Or perhaps I had even passed near the film crew location without noticing. Anyway, the film accurately caught the aura of that summer day as it had remained in my memory. I could almost smell and feel the texture of the time long gone, reliving the Zeitgeist. Even trying to recall any passing thoughts I experienced when driving through that specific area. Not enough space for the increasing populations? Echoes of "Lebensraum". There is always insufficient space in the developed world because greedy politicians either want cheap labour or are afraid to tackle immigration - the EEU policy of open doors is suicidal. Historically, no matter how small the world population, human beings squabble territorially compulsively. Geographically, there is plenty of space that nobody wants to live in, because of climate and non-development - why bother to develop when they can flood into civilised countries to freeload and ^{have} everything provided gratis? The paradox of profit and incentive driven capitalist countries irrationally giving away property and wealth, to any number of economic/parasitic immigrants who care to come, ceased to be justified when the war against international communism ended.

Yes, in my book I predicted that crime would obviously increase vastly in the ^{lawless} developed countries, as the ruthless/unscrupulous cultures and values of lower civilisations recognised the naïve liberalism of western based cultures. Add to that the frustration and resentment, not only of the endemic population but also the extant immigrant one, as jobs become scarce and immigration is blamed, and you wonder why crime isn't more rampant, as nobody seems to be in control at a

political level. The same cry is heard from all European countries as the people become strangers in their own lands and are ignored politically. And now nationalism is again growing all over Europe, despite all the EEU useless politicians and bureaucrats with a vested, parasitic interest in multicultural parasitism and chaos, where unchecked corruption now rules — a rich man's club is what ~~the~~ ^{the EEU} was always meant to be and now is, with organised labour — its main enemy — being deliberately undermined and dislocated by allowing cheap immigrant labour to swamp the market. Of course the high social class ~~are~~ dedicated to perpetuating itself, no matter what vehicle they insert for the purpose. In the UK, Blair and his New Labour of conservative middle-class parasites is/was a typical example. Despite it being a cliché, it's true that most people who climb the ladder of society forget those below and become the enemy they ^{once} ostensibly opposed, reduced by wealth, power and privilege. // During the Cuba missile crisis of the sixties, people were walking about with transistors listening to every news bulletin. I said they needn't fear a nuclear war, as those with the power to press the buttons to launch won't do so, as, having spent their lives killing, cheating, plotting their way up to wealth, power and privilege, they are too selfish and narcissistic to throw it all away on a nuclear war defending such trivia as principles! They prefer conventional wars, in which mostly the unemployed and surplus are used as cannon fodder, to defend and protect and perpetuate the wealth, power and privilege of less than 1% of the ruling class. Nothing new in any of this, of course — Churchill's offer of "blood, sweat and tears" was rationally truthful for the masses. Germany successfully fought the world for six years because the population had been offered something worth fighting for — an empire in the east, emulating the same fascist methods that Britain and all other ^{colonial} European powers used to obtain their ^{own} "global empires". // Ironically, that led indirectly to the founding of Israel and Zionist fascist imperialism, against Arab territories, with genocidal indifference! // The surrealist painters you name are mostly modern and new to me. I preferred the classical; Dali, Bosch, etc. // French students may no longer possess the political drive of the sixties, but French unions still block ports and motorways during strikes; whereas British unions allow themselves to be herded, by police blocking motorways, to keep them from supporting colleagues in other districts. // People are too influenced by numbers. It doesn't take or need an army to influence or change; only the will of the individual. Judges are very fond of "making an example" of members of the underclass, to

detest others, particularly from performing any pragmatic measures which, unlike the law, achieve positive results. Daily we see politicians, bankers and other white collar criminals acting above the law and entirely escaping penalty of any description, apart from exposure. The recent collapse of the world economy caused by voracious and corrupt bankers is a topical instance. The widespread destruction of lives and life savings didn't even result in one assassination! And, thanks to the bankers being bailed out by public funds by politicians, they are again back to doing the same again, giving themselves gigantic bonuses, in the knowledge that, if disaster again strikes, the public will again be the only losers and bail them out. A licence to rob, in short. Honest bank robbers risk loss of liberty, life, reputation, while bankers risk nothing. // If people do nothing, they deserve nothing. Whining and hoping for someone else to act and take the risks is the mindset of the majority; the mindless majority! So naturally I have studied the French Revolution, particularly the political bodies — the Committee of Public Safety, etc — and the battles between Danton and Robespierre and Marat, etc. // Yes, French coverage of our case was massive — "Les Diaboliques", based on the then film of the same name. Other French films of the time were "Pififi", "The Wages of Fear", etc. I watched many foreign films, and liked any of 1920/30s Paris and old France in general. Too many old and modern French films to mention here; also classic US films such as the 1930s, "Tale of Two Cities" (Ronald Colman), "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" (Charles Laughton), "Les Misérables" (Charles Laughton, Frederic March), etc. ^{my} The present ten year hunger strike, being forced by nasal tube since Sept 99 — you'll find it on the BBC website, etc.

Best wishes,



P.S: I enclose a recent photo of a bakery in New York — I used to enjoy getting hot breadrolls at 4 AM in the morning after the bars closed.
 P.P.S: Are you familiar with the engravings of Gustav Doré, ones of the old eastside of London?