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Dear Tom,

Here's a wild bunch of stuff to send you, but is it the whole bunch? It was gathered at various speeds or saunters, and various times, so I can't tell.

At least, however, we are making progress, according to one piece of paper. The result of your message which got sent to you, undoubtedly by your pointing at one thing, but pushing the button at the bit just to the left of it. But, of course, when it got here Loretta saw a bit of email on the screen. All of the preliminary stuff, dates and agents and handovers. Amidst which probably was my name, but inconspicuous. So she turned to the next page, which started out in the middle of a message. Of which she made neither head nor tale (THree BLind MIce, cut of their tails with a ....), so she decided that it must be for me, and printed it out against that possibility. So when I came by (a 10-o clock Sch) she showed me the outprinted second page. From which I could see that it was indeed for me, but headless. On the other hand it was also appendage-less.

Therefore, when you send me the following bit, carefully attaching your attachment, things greatly improved. Not only did my machine report your intention to send along an attachment, but the people-machines at DoIT = MACC reported (in its own words "detected file is not supported") that they had received it, and then transmitted it to my machine, naming it PALAIMAT. Only I didn't see that name anywhere until I started looking in the WiscWorld directories within, until I found it sitting there where I'd never have seen it if it hadn't given a hint of its presence. SO, I found it, and asked my machine to read it, Please. OH, NO, it said, NO YOU DON'T.

I could, of course, copy it out onto a diskette, and take the diskette to John Bt, and ask him to read it, or even print it out, for me. He could do that in a flash. But he is very busy right now, as you know, and I'm not going to do that.

If I ought to explain any of the stuff I'm sending, I think you'll have to ask me.

I notice from your emailendblurb that I ought to start getting used to addressing "pasptgp ...", which alas is not quite so memorable ..... oh no, I mean not so easy to remember ..... On the happy occasion when you don't have all those departmental burdens, that is.

Best wishes, and to all a good night.

20 January 1998



PS does the UT Libr  
get "SEMIOtica"  
for its Linguists &c?