HORACE MARDEN ALBRIGHT
12045 VIEWCREST ROAD
STUDIO CITY, CA. 91604
(213) 980 - 6580

December 26, 1981

My dear Frank:

I'm sorry to have been delayed in acknowledging your fine letter in answer to mine, and for your book on the Grizzlies. You and John have always most considerate and kind to me and my appreciation and gratitude are great. Thanks for letter and book. I'm going to write you again in the course of a month or two, for right now I'm under treatment for my eyes which no longer let me read anything smaller than the biggest headline in a newspaper. U. C. L. A. eye specialists hope to get me to reading again within a mmonth or two.

I can write this this letter for I have used the "touch" system typing since college days over 70 years ago. I cannot read what I write, so must expect you to excuse errors which I will not attempt to correct.

I'm happy to know about your parents. Please tell me just how I can write your Dad, my conemporary in Government servie 50 years ago.

I'm going into a recuperative hospital for awhile to let my daughter make a trip up Stanford University way to see her son and his family who could not ve with us for Christmas. Also our daughter or rather her daughter who is a seasonal ranger in Kings Canyon Park and engaged to a ranger up there. I live with my daughter and her husband since my belived wife ddied last year or cancer.

I'm taking alon the Grizzly book and will fine somebody to read it to me.

When I could still read I no ted the feeling that we are going to have a hard ti me saving the grizzly: that he may become extinct. Surely that will not happen in Yellowstone. Frank, would have been a good thing to continue throwing out selected food for bears say our on the Norris, Canyon road, in hopexs to keeping grizzlies in the park? Of course, wwhen Iwas superintendent, tourist s and bears could mix rather easily, and there was no traffic pr oblem which exists now. And the travelling p ublic loved the bears as much as Old Fa i thful or the Canyon.

Must stop here but will write agin one of these days. Best wishes for the New Year to all the Craigheads.

Faithfully.

Horace Albright

I'll be 92 Dec. 6th

Frank C. Craighead
Box 156
Moose, Wyo. 83012
Oct. 31, 1981

Dear Horace:

I was delighted to get your letter of Oct. 4. It brought me up to date on your activities since I last heard from you. I received your letter just as I was leaving for a float trip down the Salmon River so am just now getting around to answering it.

I am sorry to hear that you have been ill during much of the last year. I would never suspect it by reading your letter or looking at your typing. I hope I can do as well should I be fortunate enough to reach your age of 92. My typing is not as good as yours. I depended for too many years on secretaries and am now in the process of brushing up on a skill that I apparently never did learn proficiently.

You asked bout the family so I'll give you a brief resume. Mother and Dad are both 92 and are living in Naples, Florida. Dad is in a nursing home due in part to medication he took over a period of years. Mother is doing much better. She flew out to visit us last summer and had a great time. I think it was her desire to see her first great grandchild that catalyzed the trip. While here she took raft trips down the Snake, with us and enjoyed the scenery and the home activities as well as short trips to nearby areas. Mother was back in Florida when I received your lettter but I told her about it by phone and will send a copy on for her to read to Dad. He still reads some but his retention of material is very short. Between John, Jean and myself we arrange to visit the folks six or seven times a year. I spent last Christmas with Mother and stayed for nearly two months to help her with finances, taxes, medicare and such matters. JOhn and Margaret willl be with her this Christmas.

As for myself I am now a so called retiree but am working on numerous projects -- One on satellite tracking of migrating birds (eagles), another making a movie on rivers, and am compiling data and writing a book that should help people to get started on a do it yourself program of learning x field ecology.

Since seeing you I have spent three successive summers in Alaska. In 1979 a group of us including John, and my son Lance and daughter Jana floated the Tatshenshi-Alsek rivers. It was one of the most scenic and stimulating raft trips I have made. We saw and studied the grizzlies in a completely wild area. We did not see a single person for the duration of the trip. We put on the river at Dalton Post in the Yukon and disembarked at Dry Bay. The next summer I visited Katmai Natl. Park and the Mc Niel River and was introduced to the brown bear and at very close quarters. I was able to get some very good still pictures and movies and I welcomed the chance to compare various behavior traits of these bears with those of the Yellowstone grizzlies. This last summer I power-rafted 700 miles of the Lower Yukon River with my son Lance. He and a colleague had a contraact with the Fish and Wildlife Service to Locate nesting peregrines and to band the young. We located over fifty eyries and banded 81 fledglings. It was a very interesting trip but a wet one. It rained every day

and night with the exception of a few hours now and then when the sun broke through the overcast. The river rose ten feet and most of our camps were pitched in the rain and the sites were mud flats. Every summer I got some excellent salmon fishing catching all five species as well as getting dolly varden and grayling. I caught them on both fly and spinning gear. Needless to say I lived on a largely fish diet.

I won't try to say much in this letter about the Prk and the wildlife and management policies as you requested but will plan to do so in another letter. As you know, John and I have not been closely connected with the Parks since Yellowstone took over our grizzly research about 197L and prevented us from continuing with our other projects. To begin with they prohibited us from radio tagging animals yet later used it as one of the primary techiniques employed by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Research team to gather data on the grizzly. All the evidence of which I am aware does not reveal a rosy picture for the grizzly in the Yellowstone ecosystem. As for black bears you can now spend from one to two weeks in Yellowstone without seeing one. I know of no evidence that reveals they are all now in the back country as claimed by Park personnel.

I strongly feel that there is a real need for independent research in regard to public resources. If this were recognized and acted upon it would very definitely help in getting ubiased data helpful in shaping Park policy and resource management plans. It may be that the Reagan administration with its emphasis on a free market, a reduction in Government functions and a decrease in bureaucracy will help to restore a government based on a recognition of the freedom and rights of individuals.

Since your last visit to the Tetons I lost my house and most of my possessions from a five in February 1978. Esther and I had no sooner moved into our rebuilt home than we learned (day after Xmas 1979) that Esther had an incurable form of lung cancer. She died May 2, 1980.

I hope that this letter finds you as well as your age and condition permit. I wish you to know that I admire and appreciate the distinguished work you did in your Park Service carreer and I hope that another "Albright" with your vision and understanding will come along one of these days.

Please give my regards to your family.

Sincerely,

Frank C. Craighead Jr.

P.S. In 1979 I published a popular book "Track of the Grizzly." I'll send you an autographed copy

unsolicited autographed returned book 4/24/80

1710 Spruce Dr.
Red Wing, Minn.
55066

March 31, 1980

Dr. Frank C. Craighead, Jr.
c/o Sierra Club Books

Dear Dr. Craighead,

My husband gave me your Track of the Grizzly as a birthday gift and I read it with much pleasure. We and our two children spend three weeks each summer in G.T.N.P., going and coming — and fishing and learning — by way of Yellowstone. It is a pleasure to be able to see in the mind's eye the areas you have written about.

Naturally the first nine chapters were more enjoyable to read than "Bureaucracy and the Bear", which once again points out what happens

to things when the long nose of the government gets poked in! I hope someone wakes up soon.

We all have followed your work in our National Geographic magazine and on the television special programs. Let's hope lots of people are beginning to pay attention where it counts.

I would appreciate it if you would autograph my (your) book. Will you be publishing more on that or another phase of your studies soon?

Thank you, and best wishes in your work in the future.

Mrs. Dale Eidmann



SIERRA CLUB BOOKS
530 Bush Street San Francisco, California 94108 (415) 981-8634

April 14, 1980

To Frank Craighead:

This is an extraordinary request, but I decided to forward it on to you. Enclosed are a couple of stamps for return postage (I'm guessing at the amount).

Thanks.

Kate Gordon

Kate Gordon
Editorial Assistant

Photograph by Herbert W. Gleason from *Thoreau Country*

March 1 - 1982

The Craighead Family
Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Greetings from Wisconsin!

I feel moved to write to all of you about your film "Grizzly" which I thoroughly enjoyed. I have always "preached" conservation - to the dismay of many - and am very happy that this beautiful country is becoming aware of the need to conserve and protect our wild life.

I have been privileged to spend some precious hours in and around Jackson Hole, The Grand Tetons and Yellowstone National Park. My only regret is that I couldn't have had more time there but through your film I "was there again".

Thank all of you for the wonderful film.

May God bless each of you in your endeavors in conserving the wild life and beauty of America

Sincerely

Margaret L. Hatch
468 Russell St.
Fond du Lac Wis 54935