



June 23, 1988

[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible due to heavy noise and low contrast in the scan. It appears to be a long letter or document.]

By archiving what he repeatedly refused even to see as knowledgeable as Paul. Some of these were ordered to be removed from the fact that the pages following on proceeding them are classified on some basis of internal investigative work, an interest perhaps not shared. My notes on my medical work, which I have written and dated some months ago, will take many many hours to get into order, and I am not sure I can do it.

I am glad to hear that you intend to pursue your work and try to get the book done. I did not plan on the early time, but we have had, nor did I like to pursue them. But I did not bring charges. I did not challenge your view on Garrison when we first met nor did I hide my view. My intention was to get your report that we exchange info, discuss the Daily Place type stuff, and that is what I have communicated with Sylvia while we were in discussion over Garrison. I am not really trying to carry on a dialogue without mentioning that and in hopes of progressing in what we know of Daily Place, etc.

I sent copies of some of my letters to you to Paul Hoch for a very simple reason. Many times you have made reference to the fact that friends and co-workers of Harold agreed with you on certain points about him. In addition, information given to Fred by you has affected his opinion of Harold according to the letters I have from both of you. Since I consider your statements on Harold false, and since the info you quoted other critics like Lillian and Bill O'Connell on was spread at least as far as Fred and Marilyn and myself, I did not feel there was any reason why I should not counter such information which some might accept at face value. I was not in any way trying to draw Paul into the dispute, but thought that if he had a record of the replies to the charges, and made it available to Hal Verb and Jim Schmidt, both sides would be heard and kept by an arena could be done. I intended to fan no flames, and find it interesting, and perhaps a suggestion of your own interest, that you have interpreted my action. It is commonplace for people in the public community to tend curious just to keep each other informed of abstract, new info, and someone makes serious charges in a serious matter, the refutation should be part of the record. As for whether I am trying to fan flames or put them out, you started the fire and then fanned the flames with at least myself and Paul and Marilyn, and then involved Lillian and Bill O'Connell in it, not to mention Maggie, and then quoted unnamed friends of Harold. Who fanned

what flames Dave? My correspondence speaks for itself in terms of trying to put them out, not to mention the fact that I felt that the charges should never have been made, and if they were made, they should have been made with a different attitude. The charges were made in a way that was not only unfair but also ironic. Dave, since your letters and arguments illustrate in an unmistakable fashion that you consider your letters and arguments to be the last word. You speak even in your current letter of "the glaring mistakes in just the logic of some of the arguments" and said that my last letter to you and the one to Fred "is loaded with the sort of thing that's [sic] in a Swiss cheese with a hole on a bagel--holes, Gary. Loss of them." etc. This Dave is fanning the flames. This Dave assuming one to be in a superior position when judging things. No Dave, I don't think that my logic or the facts at my disposal are the last word. If you will reread my letters, you will find that this is precisely my point: that despite what you say, these things are not clear cut and black and white, except in a few instances, and that serious and irresponsible charges like the kind you made are at best injudicious, and are bound to cause unnecessary trouble. And then you tell me to "cool it," several letters after having assured me that you have helped others get out of the bag I'm in. As for putting this record before someone else, I would be only too glad to allow Paul Hoch or anyone else read our correspondence and decide for himself on any of these issues.

As "Decide who I am having your argument with," etc. Dave, this is meaningless, especially since I explained in writing why I answer some of your charges in letters to Fred, and vice versa, and sent copies. Fred has repeated many of your arguments or based some conclusions on the same evidence you have, so I don't see what is wrong with arguing the same points with both of you and sometimes overlapping. How does that affect the logic of the argument or anything else. I am sorry that I did not have a carbon for you, or that I mailed the stuff long after the library xerox was closed. Your notion of me having given "Fred a one or two day lead time in a letter" is nonsense. How can you view it in such a manner. You sound like you are trying to keep Fred under your thumb, or something like that. And then you discuss creating a triangle, etc. Come on Dave, it is you who has been discrediting Harold, and challenging me. I have not been doing that to you, except when forced to, and in the context of replying to your charges. Calling my letter "anti-left propaganda" is total bullshit. All I included about you was an examination of the charges you had made, and claimed were black and white issues, with the evidence at my disposal. After presenting my case I did not charge you with anything but irresponsibility and injudiciousness. Most of my letter was direct quotes from other letters which can scarcely be considered propaganda. In fact, again ironically, one of my roommates looked at two of your letters to me after I had gotten excited about them and then left them laying around in the kitchen. He called them just that: propaganda, and asked how the critics could get work done, or even get anywhere, with some of their number making such charges. He was especially surprised given the fact that he had heard Harold speak, heard Harold give credit (and even remembered he given credit to Fred, by name, despite the fact that Harold was here over a year ago!), and that not only had I spoken highly of Harold, but so had another one of my roommates who had met him briefly, and two old friends of that roommate who live near Harold and had met him.

And then Dave you say? "You're the one whose esteem will go down in the eyes of others if you are recklessly regarding my long relationships with either Fred or Paul." Well Dave, what is going on here. You tell Fred things and affect his views on things with such info, change some of his opinions (or do you just view this as helping him get out of a "bag"), and perhaps the same with Paul, and then characterize my defense of Harold and myself as "propaganda." One might make some inferences about what you are up to. If my esteem goes down in Fred's eyes or Paul's eyes because of what I write in letters to you, then I have lost nothing, because people will have judged me according to my opinions as I myself write them (even though in much haste) and that is how I would like to be judged. Likewise, if they so desire, and if they judge from a high plane as you seem to, they can judge me by my friends and co-workers like Harold. I value Fred and Arthur as friends and co-workers, despite the fact that they have had fallings out with a person who I have known for much longer like Harold. [For the record, Harold still doesn't understand that this, and I couldn't help him much here even after getting to know Fred somewhat and seeing Harold's work at dance files, which Harold showed me for help in understanding why someone he felt was a friend was so damnably distant and hostile towards him.] I am close to both Harold and Fred, but I am not irrevocably distant. Neither judges me on that basis. ONLY you, Dave, and the charges you have written to me, has judged me because I am a friend of Harold.

As for Paul, as long as Olson and my other work is done, I am not interested in your life. I hope that people will take advantage of my time and energy and get their business finished. There is little reason to go to any place, with the exception of the place there who still know much they could tell. Best wishes.