Dear Gary, 8/8/77

What wonderful news in your 8/6! Both the gold award of the American Psychiatric Association and the trip to China! Wow! We share some of the joy.

Odd thing - I almost wrote you yesterday to see if we could get together the weekend beginning 9/30, when I'm making a speech on the east side of Wisconsin, small town about an hour from Madison. Closest airport.

You should have an unforgetable experience. We have friends who had wartime China (and prewar) experience. Press. They returned with very high regard for the Chinese. And the country, its customs, etc.

I think your analysis of Paul is perhaps the best possible. Certainly the least unfavorable. Impressed by Alvarez and his stature. At the same time I've wondered from time to time about Paul's political beliefs. Perhaps these are not unlike those of Alvarez.

I also sent some of the papers to Proxmire. He has not even acknowledged them. I understand from his constituents that he boasts of acknolwedging every letter.

My interest in this is not Paul. That is past. Mine is the misuse of ERDA funds in an overtly political endeavor the controversial nature of which is specific in the Alvarez not the arrogant egomaniac gave me.

Another coincidence is that Prof. Dave Wrone, Univ. Wisc. Stevens Point, where I'm depositing my records (and ask you to bear in mind because of him) came yesterday. He leaves tomorrow. He had an interest in Farewell America so I gave him those files. He earlier got a series of tapes I made with that lunkhead Bob Smith on this some years ago. He had a typist transcribe. The names were unfamiliar so you came out unrecognizable. It was where I was talking about Komer for sure, perhaps more. Then this letter came.

There is a little new on my health situation. First you should know that while my activity is somewhat restricted and I have some anxiety I do not feel badly at all. I've knocked off about 15 pounds, which is good, from having less apetite and cutting out wine and whiskey, the latter because of the coumadin. Incompatible. I began to get continuing pressure sensations in the chest so I went to the local emergency room and they did an EKG. Completely normal. But there is the possibility of angina. Reaction to the nitroglycerine is not consistent yet so I suppose it is not a definitive indication. Sometimes these non-pains go away, sometimes they don't. The local doctor, who saw me first thing this morning despite other appointments, explain how to try and find out. I don't react to them as the hospital doctor forecast. No headaches, no throbbing temples.

The local doctor has a long letter from the specialists I think I told you I saw. It looked like more than two full single-spaced pages. They recommend what he had at least in part had in mind a month ago before GHA had to get involved. The lab work starts this week.

There is no certainty about the arteriogram and without the possibility of surgery being needed I think from the way the doctor spoke this morning there will be none. After these tests there will be a stress EKG. After this is done perhaps there will be others. I've not even asked. I have confidence in these people. But is the costs climbing! $50 for the trip to the emergency room alone. I have yet to get the Georgetown bill. And to have better records I've arranged to pay the local doctor and the lab on a monthly basis. So except for what I paid earlier I don't know what the costs will be. In time I'll be seeking recovery of them. GHA wrote under date ot 7/21 that they agreed they are going to give me a plan for local protection and care but since I've heard nothing.

It is great that you were able to wwing getting your building. Looks like your professional problems are working out. The fantastic award should have done some local good. Don't bother trying to answer now. I'll share your good news with Jim and Heward. Have a wonderful times! Best,

The Edgewater

P.O. BOX 490 MADISON, WISCONSIN 53701

LAKE MENDOTA AT WISCONSIN AVENUE

August 6, 1977

Dear Harold,

Thanks much for your recent letters of 5/19 and 8/1.

I was very pleased to hear about the fine medical care you received at Georgetown University Hospital. It's sad how rare it has become in this world to be treated like a human being. I know how rarely even I have had such good experiences. It's a sad commentary on how far the human race has "progressed" that such behavior is rare and to be appreciated. In any event, it was a pleasure to read your letter. I could get some of the joy vicariously.

As much as I support pre-paid health care (Health Maintenance Organizations, Group Health, etc.) the sort of care you got at Group Health is not uncommon. Sadly, it is not that uncommon in general medical practice, so I'm not sure that group health plans are any worse. But, if you have anything complicated, it is best to go elsewhere.

I suspect, in your debate with Paul, that Paul has simply gotten angry and that the specifics of the argument are no longer relevent to him. I have trouble believing that he would not eschew such standards of "scholarship."

Again, I wish I could shed some light on things, but the Alvarez thing has always confused me insofar as both Alvarez and Paul are concerned. Even knowing Paul has never helped me understand how he got into that. Two facets keep cropping up in my mind when I think of it: 1. The tendency of a student to be excited by, and honored by contact with a big name in his field, and the likelihood that such a person would not be quite as critical as he or she would under other circumstances; 2. Paul's dislike of black-and-white assertions made by anyone, especially persons with limited knowedge of an area, which undoubtedly led to some interest in seeing critics reminded that nothing is 100% and that sometimes things which seem obvious are not that clear when all alternatives are examined. (I think Paul has always been upset at all the speculation in the medical area and has always been far more comfortable with issues relating to a comparison of what two documents said. Although your work has spanned both areas, his has not. I am reminded of a comment Dave Lifton made many years ago about Paul's approach to things--something to the effect that as Paul told the story, he had "allegedly" hitchhiked to a specific place, pending verification.

As I've said in the past, while I think a reasonable person could, and should question any flat assertion about the movement of

the head, and that some responsible research would have been helpful, Alvarez began from a clearcut bias and did poor research, especially in terms of how far he generalized his findings. It had a blatant political purpose, even if it was only to push Alvarez's personal views and had nothing to do with the government. I am outraged that while such research was never done during the WC investigation and while the head hit was not dealt with in the first place, another organ of the government spent my tax money subsidizing this sort of work.

So, despite all this conjecture, I really don't feel I can shed a scintilla of light on the whole affair. At the very least it has been an unfortunate time waste and also led to disunity.

I haven't heard from Paul in a while although he did mail me some xeroxes. By the way, thanks much for the newspaper clippings.

Since I last wrote, I think, two major things have happened:
1. I was selected to lead a Friendship Tour of the People's Republic of China in Sept., and will be gone for 3 weeks from Sept. 10 until Oct. 3. It's a childhood fantasy come true and I'm very excited. We'll be in Peking, Chengchow, Wushi, and Shanghai. I spent last weekend in Chicago at an orientation and will be busy preparing until the trip comes off. It's not an ordinary trip to some foreign place. I finally bought a camera and am learning to take photos.

2. Our center was chosen for the 1977 Gold Achievement Award of the Hospital and Community Psychiatry dvision of the American Psychiatric Association. It will be awarded on Oct. 4 in San Francisco, and I'm expected to go out to reeceive it. So, I will stop there on the way back from China.

In addition, after all of these years, our center has a signed purchase agreement for the house we operate out of. It looks like the mortgage will come through and we may own it by Sept. 1. That will be a headache of many years finally ended.

Well, back to the grind. Please give my warm regards to Lil. I will have trouble corresponding until after I return from China, but will try to stay in touch.

Take care,

Gary