

9/28/70

Dear Friends,

Paul has finally acknowledged, if even this loose word first. A copy of his note to me and his letter to Gary Schoener are enclosed with my today's outburst to Paul. Please share with Hal.

I am still without acceptable explanation for all of this. You will note slight and partial confirmation of my original belief. Were I to put it more strongly, I'd be exaggerating. However, the minimum is there. Therefore, in trying to puzzle this out and, to the degree I can, cope with it and its potential, I just cannot entirely ignore it. I hope further exploration becomes possible.

I lack essential knowledge, like Paul's real feeling about Alvarez, whose fundamental dishonesty is beyond question. I have again pushed him ~~again~~ on this. I know only generally of Alvarez' part in the "Hiroshima monstrosity. And the timing of this new business, like that of the first, is quite significant, in a way I haven't time to explain.

One of the most troubling parts of all of this is my inability to reconcile such really incompetent work with Paul's intellect. The reasoning is irrational, too. On this basis also I just cannot dismiss the slight possibility of involuntariness. Please also note that for the first time Paul disowns both the original idea and any real sympathy with it while repeating his awareness of its evil potential. So, I still cannot say the signals I saw are still not there.

I wish I had the means to file against Alvarez in SF, as once I thought John Christian was going to arrange. But I haven't either the lawyer who would take the case on contingency (the sum for which we could sue, with 4 prime net hours involved, is enormous, as against CBS, to which I did make the proposal they ultimate, if dishonestly, aired and I have the rejection, in writing, from the producer!), nor even the means of getting out there for the filing or the hearing. The fact is, I think, that unless the statute has run, merely telling CBS that I will file might accomplish some good.

Hurriedly,