

5/27/77

RR, JL,

Herewith Hoch's response to what I wrote him about the Alvarez disinformation and my response. The letter will probably be more than usually incomprehensible because it is now more than six hours since I returned from driving Bill to the dentist and for the grocery shopping. Except for 15 minutes for a simple supper and this letter it has all been responding to phone calls.

My recollections of specifics of the melody are mostly general rather than specific. I am fairly certain Hoch then pretended no connection of any kind save that perhaps Alvarez had used his and Olson's observations.

What is conspicuous to me on this is a combination of the new admissions of the opposite of total detachment and of an official connection, whether or not entirely kosher, and most startling to me of all, of Hoch's prepublication knowledge and silence.

The possible interpretations are many so I make not of this last. I content myself with the observation that he said nothing, knowing.

Aside from an official connection, whatever its extent and nature, the most obvious and entirely unexplained is the anti-scientific nature of this project.

I don't know that Hoch will respond further.

I do know that what is in his attached letter he says for the first time. Of this I am certain.

To try to be more specific, my present interest is not Paul or his role, whatever it may be. It is Alvarez/ERDA/tax money that under any circumstances has to be after the end of the official investigation, no business of ERDA and then the years in which this track appeared in files only to be dragged out when the subject heated up again.

ERDA does this?

Anyone, even a Sobel Laureate, on the ERDA test does this?

And there are no questions?

Hastily,