

10/14/70

Dear Gary,

Sent copies of letter PH to Sylvia and Mel, who is current abroad, no less!

If I am satisfied with no explanation of PH's conduct, including my own, the one closest to making sense is yours. Just thought of a crack I should have included in the unrelieved one I wrote him this a.m. while I was waiting for the fog to lift: Physicist, heal thyself!

Williamsbook: schmaltz. Opinion of former King friend who read it for potential reprinter.

As of now I believe it self-deception to assume that powerful arguments will influence PH. Remember his response to the long think I sent him? He wouldn't "argue" and he was concerned (for the first time) about my ulcer. If he intended the second a some kind of joke, how explain the first? Thus my latest is in the form of questions, and I think I'll now writing something downright insulting, but not without point.

No word from Mery still. I fear she did the futile. Or should I say I hope she did, for these other convenient explanations for her silence are less comforting. And there is one thing she knew I want very much, easy for her to send, that she hasn't. I need it now, as she knows also. It is more than 5 weeks.

Odd that you feel depressed when I feel something similar-not depression, but a different form, I suppose, of the anxiety. I think a minor part but a part is this great disappointment of PH.

From the condensation I'd say the Kaiser book is a good one. Since he later got the idea with which I began, this is not easy for me not to feel! I'll offer him what I have that is relevant for his appearances.

Got a couple of second-hand filing cabinets on "indefinite loan". I now have 19 full-sized drawers and haven't enough for everything. I've splurged and ordered a new four-drawer one, only 24" deep, which I can get for \$40.00. It will replace a 2-drawer one. I'm eliminating my desk, using three 2-drawer cabinets under a sheet of plywood, which will increase my filing capacity by six more drawers. It will be better for a while, but I'll miss the drawer space in the desk. I'm putting the small file cabinets in the closet in Lil's office, where she can use them.

Jim Lesar, who is volunteering with Bud, has friends at Stevens Point. They are interested, but I don't know about working. I do not know who he sent from Duluth. Perhaps it is an error, but I've never gone through Bud's files. He loaned Paul some, and Paul wrote and told me I should go over them when he returned them. I immediately asked Bud to let me see them when he got them back. He said it was already too late, that he'd refiled them. Seems unlikely that Paul returned anything that bulky by first-class mail... Jim is due here tomorrow to work on the Ferrie complaint, which he is to revise. Hope he makes it. He was originally due yesterday... Nothing else new. Best regards,

Dear Harold,

October 10, 1970

Sorry that it's taken me so long to write. I have three letters from you, and Dick Bernabei has sent me his letters to Paul. Enclosed is my answer to his answer to my memo. He seems to have completely missed my main points or selectively perceived them. I stayed away from politics and discussed mostly his logic and theory testing model. I even went light on the experiment itself. Several copies are enclosed of my last letter to Paul and as before, you can send them out. I will send one to Dick B., so don't send one to him.

Your letter of 9-17: glad to hear that some things are being accomplished in regard to the brief. I have never paid Bud a cent or in any other way joined his committee. I said that I would certainly be willing to cooperate, but that there are things I would not give him for his files, and in fact that I would prefer to send everything to you and have you send on what you thought appropriate. He considers me a member of sorts, and in fact ~~###~~ just referred a guy to me from Duluth as an important researcher, but did not say I was a member. as for what is motivating Paul, I suspect that he is experiencing a bit of an identity crisis of some sort, and maybe with this paper as a vehicle trying to convey some long standing emotional feelings about the critics. The Garrison stuff and other political stuff would support such a hypothesis. In other words, what his paper may represent is an expression of doubts and anger at some of the critics for irresponsibility, or incomplete investigating. If he is to become a physicist, he will no longer be with# the gadflies and the students, but rather with those who are supposedly more objective. Thus, in his last letter to me, he says that there is no 100% evidence or even compelling evidence of a shot from the front, but forgets the analogous argument that the same is true from the rear if one ignores eyewitnesses and medical evidence. I simply do not know Paul well enough, nor do I know of his life situation, to allow myself to do such idle speculating anymore than the preceding. Alvarez's influence, in this case, is probable, but most likely has to do with attitudes and questions of approach and questions as to what makes a physicist tick rather than any pressure. You, for instance, have influenced me in ways and areas which in no way relate to the assassination, nor does this influence #have to do with needs on my part to please you or of fears that you will not like me. Alvarez may be a very important person in Paul's life. I appreciate your personal advice about my future, in this letter, by the way.

Your next letters: The book that Newsweek knew of is out and known to us--John William's "The King that God did not Save." Agreed on the time needed to reply to Paul. You have, as usual, done far more than your share. So has# Dick B., to a lesser degree. Glad to see that all of us made a few of the same points, but that each of us added some of his own. It is also a good feeling for someone in my position to know that you and Dick are so dependable to make the arguments from the evidence, physics, etc. You both did better than I would have anyway, but I'm glad I didn't try given my time problem. Paul will have a lot of info now so that he should realize on his own that something has blinded him a bit in a way untypical of Paul.

From your last letter, the Bud thing is as we feared. I haven't heard from Dick Sprague since his first visit here. I will write Mary today and agree with your concern. Glad to hear that Paul Rothermel is alive and well.

The Psych conference which I played a major role in was a big success, both in terms of the papers presented, and in terms of the interpersonal experimne. Therapy has been tough# this past week and I have been depressed, but don't yet know why. But, at least something's happening. I hope you and Lil are OK when this arrives. God only knows when I'll get back to see you. Best wishes.

Gary