

THE MINNEAPOLIS CLINIC

OF

PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY

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Feb. 12, 1971

Dear Harold:

ADMINISTRATION:
WILLIAM M. BOTMAN

Thanks for your mailings of Jan. 29, Feb. 2 and Feb. 6.
Enclosed is a copy of my letter of Feb. 3 to Paul.

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY:

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I spoke with Ned and he said that he just sent you a letter. He has been forgetful in getting in touch with me also. He tells me that Roberts has looked at some of the declassified stuff (recently declass that is) and has written an article on it (mentioned only LHO access to info about the U-2 in terms of specifics). It could appear soon in NEWSWEEK. He says that Roberts got in touch with Nichol's and his attorneys and that they have promised Roberts info on the outcome of the suit. He is quite interested in that suit.

PSYCHOSOMATIC
SEXUAL DISORDERS AND
CLINICAL HYPNOSIS THERAPY:
MILTON ABRAMSON, M.D.

On Army intelligence, I forgot to mention that I do not get the local paper. I stopped getting it in disgust a long while ago. So I have no source for the clippings without checking on when there is an article and collecting them. Not being a student, I get the Univ. paper only when I find one laying around. I will certainly send anything I find.

ADOLESCENT AND
CHILD PSYCHIATRY:
GEORGE J. BARRY, M.D.
PAUL W. BRANFORD, M.D.

I just don't agree with your comments on Paul. While I think that Paul has not yet accepted that his memo was different from anything else he has ever done, and that it discussed many big issues without proper factual support, and that it looked very much like a statement of some doubts he has had for a while which are not all related to his experiment, I do not feel that he is as way out as you do. In his position I would find it equally difficult to reply to the many pages of letters and attach from all of us. This is especially true given the extent of the issues discussed. Whether a point by point approach would have been productive is academic now, but I think that by not discussing those many controversial points one by one (certainly a departure from his usual style) but rather covering them globally in a single memo and followup, Paul set the stage (inadvertently I am sure) for the scattershot replies which followed. I sent a short memo, not only due to time limitations, but because I felt that if there were some simple and clearcut objections possible, then Paul would see them and not continue with any plans to publish the memo. So Paul surprised us all with questions and disagreements, many of which probably preceded his experiment, but some of which derived from it (since his earlier belief that the headshot came from the front has a different basis than, say, mine) and depended a lot on just the head movement alone), none of which we were aware of, and we tried to reply to them all.

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PSYCHIATRIC NURSE THERAPY:
JANE DOLAN, R.N.
SUSAN HAGGAR, R.N.
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As long as the memo is not going to be published, I am no longer concerned. I do not feel the need to explain Paul's behavior, even if I thought I could. I did feel that it was important, after Paul's initial reassurance that he was not planning to publish, to continue to point out how unusual the memo was and that it suggested a rethinking of either the case or his role in society or god only knows what else. I did this as a friend, the same way I hope that others point out changes in my behavior. (i.e. One of the most helpful things in my clinical work is when someone simply points out that I am reacting differently than I normally do.) I see nothing strange or devious in the deal on the documents, although I do see it as different from what Paul would have done a year or so ago. I don't believe in going to great lengths to make archives things generally available because I don't have the time and there is often a negative payoff (i.e. Fred and Dave's invectives). Lifton's bad judgment doesn't bother me or worry me because he is out of the public eye and thus debacles like the stuff he gave Esquire are no threat. Basically I can't stand his paranoia, belligerence, and endless attacks, and after all this time don't really believe that sending him stuff will advance the case one iota. After countless promises to Vince, myself, Ray, and others, he has produced nothing public.

Gary Short is no longer with Associated Personalities. They still are interested in me and have offered to handle individual appearances even if I won't sign a contract, but I told them that I am generally out of the business. Gary has left and the man replacing him is Gary Sotebeer. He will be in touch with you and they claim that they are planning to push you publicly along with a few others they have decided to concentrate on. Gary is now program director with WLRO radio in Cleveland, Ohio (216 244-1380). Ken Minyard is happy and well on Los Angeles radio. To be frank, I delayed in contacting Gary because I had been feeling very guilty for backing out on my promise of signing a contract with them (something Gary had been banking on and which meant a lot to him) and had not had the decency to call Gary and explain. I sent the Nix print to Jerry over a week ago. I had delayed on that because I just hadn't had the time to locate it on the reel, take it off and splice it, and then package it for shipping. As it was, I finally cut off a chunk and mailed it as was. I have run down Ned although I had personal reasons for not wanting to contact him. I had tried earlier but he had failed to return calls or get in touch as he promised. What else I know of Ned is personal and confidential, so let's leave it that I have reason to believe that his interest in this is different from ours, and that he has a personal concern. This is not to say that he will not be helpful but only that he is not as reliable as people like Dick, Paul, myself, etc. He is also not completely convinced of the conspiracy.

You are right about my work on the case slowing down, but it is not due much to disappointment in my opinion, but rather to the pressing of other needs and interests. One major change in my life in the last year is that I now work full time (in fact, about 50 hours per week) and in addition still have a dissertation to worry about. Given my memory and reasonably high intelligence, I have never had to spend much time studying, so even when a full time student I had much free time. That is no longer true. I do appreciate your observations and concerns. To some degree you are somewhat alone in this work now, save for persons such as Dick. Paul will keep active, at least off and on, I think, but you are distant from him now. I am as mystified about Mary as you are. What about Howard. Let's face it, you are the only critic who has made this his life work. We are lucky you have, but most of the rest of us have careers, etc. to pursue, and while we are still interested, can no longer afford the time to work around the clock.

Paul's approach to archives stuff is different than mine but I think I understand it. When I went to the archives I wanted to go over the stuff and send it with memos and explanation to others. But I had no time so I just shipped the whole lot, including many items of interest only to me, and many others

did not understand. When Lifton sent that stuff to Mary (##he sold it and made a profit!) he ommitted many of the most important items, something she discovered by accident. While she was suspicious that he had left those things out on purpose (and I wondered myself given that many of them seemed of such obvious value, and he had left in much of the tripe), there is still a strong possibility that he just did not understand the value of such things. Let's face it, we all have different slants on the case which make us sharper at nnticing certain things. I am personally hoping just that Paul has time to keep me up on things when he puts them together.

On your letter of 2/2: I am sorry to hear that you haven't been feeling that well. I expect that your dizziness has to do with the amount of work you have been doing and pressure you have been under. Your personality style predisposes you to react somatically to pressures. Please do anything you can to slow down a bit. Some of the pressure, like with the Paul thing, is really unnecessary. Paul has been confronted with innaccuracies in his piece--you owed him that as both a friend and colleague. How he responds and whether he finds time to keep up with things is his problem. You can't force others to see things your way, whether your way is correct or not. All of us make mistakes or are careæss and all of us overextend ourselves at times or don't follow through as much as we might like to. The best we can all do is not become overly involved in some of these types of things.

If you can send me a copy of that review of frameup, please do. I'd like to be able to publicize it and get it stocked in local stores. And, congratulations. If you can send me a copy, I will get one to important local people, including associated personalities. I would also like to know how to order copies--I should see one as soon as possible to be able to read it. I don't actually know what is in the book given all the material you had for Coup which I know has been shortened.

Well, I'd better go now. If I have not answered any of your many questions to your satisfactinn, please let me know. This is relatively short given the length of your letters. Take it easy.

Gary