

INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES

1800 FLORIDA AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20009

February 13, 1964.

Mr. Howard Zinn
45 Chapin Road
Newton Center, Mass.

Dear Howard:

Thanks for the note; I had been just about to write you. I figured the AAUP had taken a while.

I want to tell you again that your talk was extraordinary. Exciting intellectual analysis that draws on a reservoir of honest, deep, and open moral commitment is so damned rare! I can see we do all need a term in Southwest Georgia.

I was especially conscious of this quality because I had been working on a piece about "Beyond the Civil Rights Movement" that was quite different -- a sort of "systems analysis" (God help me) of what might actually change in American society, outside the race area, if the civil rights movement over the next few years won a substantial proportion of what it now wants. (I realize all the ambiguities in that last.) I was focusing on such stuff as a more pro-underdeveloped-world foreign policy growing out of newly powerful Negro pressure groups for Africa, dumping of the Russell/Vinson sort of Southern military politicians and resultant increase in serious possibility of disarmament, a student share in co-government of the schools as a result of the school strikes, etc. But your approach had a depth that stirred and delighted me -- and I think anyone who keeps trying to analyze, systematize, and predict needs to be reminded that history is a fumbling walk in the dark.

Well, thank you. And please do come as my guest to meet at the Institute when the SNCC Advisory Council comes here next, or whenever you are in this area.

I especially want the other Fellows to get to meet you, for a number of reasons - partly because I'd like to explore the possibility of your coming here sometime.

Regards,

Arthur I. Waskow
Arthur I. Waskow
Peace Research Institute Fellow

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