

October 14, 1974

City Manager James L. Sullivan  
City Manager's Office  
Cambridge City Hall  
Cambridge, Mass. 02139

Dear Sir:

Recent events force me to write to you and voice my concerns about the actions of the Cambridge Police Department. Having lived in Cambridge for the last eight years, I grow weary of the continued official tolerance of police brutality. Larry Largey is dead. The Walton Brothers emerged from the police station with numerous injuries. Now Clarence Anderson has lost the sight of one eye. And now Hugh Price stands trial for manslaughter as a result of continued racist harrassment leading up to the night of August 15th. And what hurts even more is that these are not the only incidents --- just those which the media wished to publicize. Police attitudes and actions of just the last few years towards people in the Cambridge community read as a continuing record of violence.

Why is it always the same officers? Perhaps, as Chief Reagan has said, because they are the ones doing their jobs best. And perhaps not. Why is police force used so often against minority citizens? Perhaps Black policemen now in court have part of the answer.

It is high time that it all stopped. Chief Reagan has blundered and blustered enough, it is time for him to retire. The police investigating themselves have decided there is probable cause for discipline of officers who arrested Clarence Anderson. And what of Clarence's sight --- the city should grant him funds for that loss, although no amount would be sufficient. And it is high time for all officers connected with incidents of police brutality in the past to be investigated and, if cause be found, be removed from the force. And what of the recommendations of the Liacos report?

And finally it is time that incestuous games between the Manager, Solicitor, and Council be halted --- the buck stops on all your desks. When you want to get something done, you always find a way. It is a volatile situation, and it is growing, while you sit idly by and watch.

Sincerely,

*Geoff Beane*

Geoff Beane  
52 Pearl St.

cc: City Councilors

October 14, 1974

To: the City Clerk

Please ensure that all members of the City Council receive copies of the accompanying letter.

32. 509

Comm. from Geoff Bean re: to Police  
brutality.

In City Council  
Oct. 21, 1974

10/21/74

Referred to the

City Manager -

Copy sent to City Mgr.  
10/23/74 dl

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