

March 8, 1965

Dr. Joseph Jaffe, M.D.
Director of Research
The William Alanson White Institute of
Psychiatry, Psychoanalysis and Psychology
20 West 74th Street
New York, New York 10023

Dear Joe:

I have read your letter of March 2 with a great deal of interest. We are going ahead with the design of our study, and I have pointed out to my associates the potential merits of providing taped sessions. Following your recommendations, we have investigated the tape machine market and the most reasonable recommendation is that we buy a Roberts-1630 instrument. I visited the local dealer, and have made a small tape using the two microphones. I am sending this tape to you. I would be grateful if one of your assistants would put this on AVTA, and check if this recording at 7 1/2 IPS would be satisfactory. If so, we will purchase this instrument and then try to provide the tapes with sufficient clarity for that purpose.

I have already played the first part of this tape through our Tanberg and find that a technician should be able to use the Tanberg foot pedal for transcription.

I think it would be possible for us to send a technician to New York to be trained by your assistants. I believe that it might be important to do this at a time when I will be in New York also, and we can make this arrangement later this spring. In the meantime, I believe that I would like to make a tape of one of our early sessions, provide a transcription, and then send it on to you with the request that you critique our techniques. If the recordings are satisfactory, we will continue to make them here and begin the analysis in the spring.

I am concerned relatively little with the financing of these studies, insofar as our Foundation has provided me with the authority to use its funds to establish new studies, and these initial expenditures are within my budgets.

I would very much like to spend some time with Dahlberg, Stan, and yourself, since I believe that your study provides a unique opportunity for a measurement of psychotherapeutic interaction, a subject which we discussed so often some years ago at Hillside.

Please call me about our tape. Thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

MF: jm