

To Dr. Leonard J. Halpern,
Chair of Strategic Ethics,
Joint Nuclear Command Advisory
Board.

Leonard,

This is not a report for the
record.

At 0304 hours, Sector V recorded
a high-energy event gamma
radiation burst, twelve seconds,
undirected, unaccounted.

No launch signatures.
No thermal anomalies.
No known phenomena at
matching coordinates.

I rechecked every telemetry
relay.

I recalibrated spectrum logs.
Nothing conventional
explains what we observed.

It was a spike vertical, clean,
final.

The Soviets didn't do this.
We didn't do this.

It occurred.

I stood on the observation
deck, thinking I would see some
trace, a disturbance in the
atmosphere, a shift in stellar
alignment.

I saw nothing.

The sky remained.
But it remained wrong.

The event was pure in its
silence.

It did not destroy.
It did not warn.

It simply arrived, and left.

I have spent twenty years
working with fissile materials,
ignition models, containment
arcs.

I understand force, and
radiation, and entropy.

But this
this was *unlaw*.

I am writing to you, Leonard,
because you understand the
difference between failure and
withdrawal.

We built weapons under the
assumption that the universe
tolerates survival.

Now I am less certain.

I recommend this letter be
archived in the black sector
vaults, behind the thermobaric
project files.

It is not a record of violation.

It is a record of silence.

If the world survives this
month, if anyone reads this:

*The night the world
almost ended, the sky issued
no threat --- it simply
corrected us.*

In cold observation,

Dr. Richard Alan Merle
Head of High-Energy
Contingency Studies
LOS ALAMOS