

TO: SD/C. F. Sawin  
FROM: CB/W. E. Thornton  
SUBJECT: Cooperation on Treadmill

cc: Gene Coleman, UHCLC  
*J. Kerwin*

Over the past weeks we evolved a plan for testing of the treadmill I developed for Shuttle and for completing its readiness for operational use. This was an effort close to my heart and in which ~~I invested~~ <sup>were invested</sup> considerable hours of time including a complete re-review of the literature last week as part of revision of the planned test. I was particularly grateful for your efforts to bridge the gap and allow us to cooperate on this key item as well as possibly on others we discussed.

Unfortunately, we are two minor figures in the scheme of things <sup>and our</sup> whose efforts and aims are controlled by others with apparently different views. I have not had any definitive answer to your letter to FOD. Your supervisors are now occupying my entire time in a fight for career survival in a separate matter. Their actions in this other matter make it obvious that my interest in technical integrity and excellence stand little chance in the current scheme of things. It was precisely this point that caused the difficulties in the past and it is obvious that in the present atmosphere these difficulties would recur.

Until such a time as those in control have some interest in cooperation which will be technically fruitful ~~efforts~~, we stand no chance of real cooperation and it is best to terminate our efforts. Should such a time ever come and be proven by acts not words, I will be happy to once again try to cooperate in any way possible for this is a very real disappointment <sup>to me</sup>.

N.B.-- The test scheme I laid <sup>out</sup> <sup>is</sup> the core of the revised proposal and is inherently simple but a few points will require very advanced instrumentation. My criticism of the draft as it now stands <sup>is</sup> ~~would be~~ that such technical items are not given sufficient weight while organization, test subjects, etc., were stressed out of proportion. My revision in process would have corrected that.