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January 28, 1938.

Mr. O. H. Palmquist,
806 Western Avenue,
Trinidad, Colorado.

Dear Mr. Palmquist:

Thank you very much for your very good letter of the 15th instant. I beg pardon for my delay, but we were out on a trip and after returning our examinations came on, and I have been so extremely busy that my correspondence has been neglected.

In your #1 illustration I would spread my triangle zone as follows: I would have X4 cover A0; I would move X4 out to within 7 or 10 feet of A0. I would move X3 over and between B0 and the basket, say 3 to 7 feet, and I would move X5 spreading him out within 10 or 12 feet of C0. Then I would loosen up X2 and X1 far enough back so that you would be sure they could not cut around you.

You will remember that I said in my text that some times it was necessary to play a man for man defense, but I would play the principle of the zone. In other words, I would spread the apex triangle defense and make it so elastic that it covers the situation, but when the opponents try to pick off one of your men by screening I would spread back into the principle of the zone.

In other words, you cannot always play it, but you generally can play the principle and most times you will be able to play the set up as you have given it.

Now, on your #2 illustration, if the ball is passed to the left I would shift X4 over close enough to A0 to discourage a pass in there, and yet not too close that he could cut around toward the basket. I would move X3 over between B0 and the basket but far enough to assure X4 a helpful defense. If the ball is passed to the left I would leave X5 where he is because the ball is over to the left. If the ball is to the right I would shift lopsidedly in the other direction. I would also loosen up X1 and X2 because when the offense spreads the defense drops back some and loosens up.