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Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
10/21/77

Dr. Malcolm O. Perry
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Dear Malcolm,

Your letter dated the 13th did not reach the postage meter until the 24th. It came today. When I did not hear from you earlier I had to proceed without it. Whether or not I'll be able to do much more depends in large part on the courts and to a degree with on my health. What I have been attempting to do in this litigation is totally unrelated to any literary interest. In fact it contributes considerably to my not being able to do any writing. It is against every selfish interest.

Of course with time some recollections do dim. When there are those with an interest in creating confusion and when they have power confusion does result.

You have always been, as you say, cooperative and helpful. If you had not been I would not have considered asking you to execute an affidavit. I was aware of a problem with which it confronted you, one I have not mentioned. I also believe it presented an opportunity.

When I left our last interview I went to the Parkland lobby and made notes immediately. As soon as I could get to a typewriter I typed them up. In the affidavit I did not draw upon all you then said. There is nothing in the affidavit that does not come from this or the testimony before the Warren Commission or the White House transcript. It, by the way, is now in the court record, in full.

From your letter I take it you do not have the Warren Commission transcripts as printed. I'll be glad to provide them to you if you'd like. I'll have to look around and get a set I've not marked up not to influence you but I'll be only too glad to do it. You would also then find that I took nothing out of context and that in fact you were not asked about your consultation on Connally. You told me ever so much more about that than I drew upon.

To illustrate the problem your letter gives me I select the first convenient point to check. In the letter you say "Dr. Carrice was not a senior surgical resident; he was a first year resident." In your testimony upon which as I told you I did draw, you stated at 3H367, "For example, Dr. Carrice being the senior surgical resident in the area, at the time President Kennedy was brought into the emergency ~~room~~ suite..." And as to his being a first year resident, which I quote on the off chance that I misunderstood your testimony, in the same volume at the top of page 358 he testified to his internship "and then did a year of fellowship at the surgical department at Southwestern Medical School, followed by my surgical residency at Parkland Hospital." When asked he added "I am engaged in surgical residency which will qualify me for board certification." As you can see, "senior surgical resident" are your own words.

I don't believe I said that there is magical surgery, one that does not leave a mark of any kind. What I was addressing is what you believed to be damage caused by or as a consequence of the bullet and "umms, in his efforts to circumvent that, attributed to you. You were pretty explicit about that and the comparison with small bodies was your own, not mine. As a matter of fact you were indignant in your account to me and as I did then I still believe your indignation was more than justified. What I have in my books on this is what I believe, that all of you people were imposed upon.

Another belief is that this is part of the continuing problem. I had hoped that with the passing of time and with the disclosures of evidence of the kind I have brought to

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light over the years the uneasiness might have diminished more than it seems to have.

I also had hoped that while I am alive and can be of use, while I have the knowledge that comes from work nobody else has duplicated and while I have records that were withheld but in every detail supported what you and Dr. Carrico said, it might be possible to make an official record with those who at the time had first-hand knowledge of what the appeals court described as "the events." If I had been able to remain in Dallas longer this past June there are other of your former associates I would have sought out. One who had been spoken to by a friend of mine was pretty outspoken about the pressures and preconceptions from Washington.

Time does do things to memory. I wish I were less aware of this. Once I had photographic recall. Now I sometimes have trouble with names and even with how I have filed records and where I placed records I've not been able to file. So don't for a minute think I believe you are being either difficult or devious, the words you used. I do not. After I last saw you and Dr. Carrico I wrote exactly the opposite of both of you. I found both of you to be honest and formed the impression that you are both good human beings.

The shootings in Dallas were but the beginning of a long serious or trauma. From the time the child of one of the federal agents came up to me after a college appearance, eyes ~~wet~~ wet, and we conversed briefly, I have had some awareness of the toll taken in some many lives. I wish it had been possible for me to relieve some of this. But all I can do is try to establish fact and make it available. If we cannot undo the past I would like to feel that we can improve the functioning of our basic institutions, especially in time of great crisis. They failed after the assassination of the President for whom I voted only because of the alternatives.

I do not know where this will go in court. The judge, of ~~my~~ unhidden partisanship, has from the first indicated he would pay no attention to the remand decision of the appeals court. He has said often enough that he would send me there again. Knowing this and to meet my obligations I've sought to make as full and as accurate a record as possible. It includes many exhibits, from unpublished FBI records to glossy prints of the pictures of which I sent you xeroxes or xeroxes of printed ones where I had no others. (If I sent you ~~any~~ glossys please look at the backs to determine if I asked for their return.) The real problem, if the appeals court does not just tire of the entire matter and again rules for me, will be my capabilities, given my limitations. For now, however, the record is closed. Nothing new can be used on appeal.

If you ever get near here or if I get a speaking engagement near you perhaps we can talk again. If you think of anything you have not said I'd certainly like to know it. My offers to you of access to my records stands if you develop any interest.

In Dallas you and Dr. Carrico were both helpful. I do appreciate it.

Best wishes,

Harold Weisberg