

12 December 1973

Dr. Cyril H. Wecht
Coroner of Allegheny County
542 Fourth Ave
Pittsburgh 15219

Dear Cyril,

Thank you for your very welcome letter of the 6th. One of the rewards of my attendance at the Conference was the opportunity to see you after a longish time and to feel that our friendship and comradeship was alive and healthy. Incidentally, the only reason why I did not attend the second day of the Conference was that I got to bed very late after Bud Fensterwald's party and did not wake up until 5:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Thank you also for having sent me the reprint of the article in The Forensic Science Gazette, which you and Bob Smith co-authored. I hope that you will forgive me if I do not comment on the article by the Lattimers, in the same issue, but I can no longer force myself to study such specious material and pseudo-scientific pronouncements. After ten years of servitude, we should not have to contend with such warmed-over Warren Reportage.

The article written by you and Bob Smith is objective, carefully reasoned, and devastating of the official fictions about the autopsy and medical findings and the single-bullet nonsense. It is surely a contribution of the first rank to the critical literature and it sinks premises essential to the credibility of the WR.

I do have reservations on a few points. First of all, I think that the Admiral Berkeley death certificate of 11/23/63 deserves more importance than it has so far received. It was not too long ago that some of our fellow-critics (who shall be nameless) were so desperate to obtain and publicize it that they were toying with extreme measures to get it. Second, I still find it hard to accept that the back wound was higher than the wound at the Adam's apple, for the same reasons found in the literature and enumerated in Accessories. How can it be reconciled with the position of the hole in the shirt?

Third, I have reservations about the statement that "no support can be found for theories which postulate gunmen to the front or right-front of the Presidential car". Even if the "no support" applies solely to "the available medical evidence", there remains the violent recoil back and to the left after bullet impact in frame 313. Unless and until that is explained, I have to regard it as prima facie evidence of a bullet from the front and the right.

My warm and friendly wishes for the holidays and the New Year,

Sincerely,


Sylvia Meagher
302 West 12 St NYC 10014

cc: Bob Smith CTIA ✓