

8/14/78 Wrote to Wilber by hand, congratulating
him on publication of his book and suggesting
that a copy should be supplied to the HSC on A.

28 September 1976

Professor Charles G. Wilber
Forensic Science Laboratory
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, Colorado

Dear Professor Wilber,

I was most pleased to receive your long informative letter and very heartened by your description of the book you intend to write on the JFK autopsy findings. Much has been written about the infamous autopsy and in the course of that writing the waters have become considerably muddied. An incisive, forensic and clear reexamination of the autopsy and medical findings would be most useful at this time, in view of the reinvestigation of the JFK assassination which is to be undertaken by a select committee of the House of Representatives.

Your impression of my pessimism about the ultimate outcome of the work of the critics and indeed of the official Congressional reinvestigation of the case is well-founded. I have long feared that the most that could be accomplished would be the destruction of the Warren Report and Governmental acknowledgment that it is a tainted document that must be rejected as well as an official admission that we do not know who assassinated the President or why.

I have serious reservations about the new Congressional investigation, partly because its sponsors have been briefed at least in part by critics who are unable or unwilling to make a proper differentiation between questionable allegations, evidence, and proof. If you can complete your study of the forensic evidence in time to feed your findings to that Congressional committee, it would be a very large plus for all of us who are seeking to establish the truth—or at the least, to expose the untruths in the case.

The Kennedy family lawyer to whom one must apply for permission to examine the autopsy photos and X-rays is Burke Marshall. When last I heard mention of him, about four years ago, he was at the Yale School of Law at New Haven, Connecticut. I do not think he will be very receptive to a request to examine the autopsy photos and X-rays, particularly if he believes that a further attack is to result on the Warren Commission findings. Cyril Wecht had to wait about a year until Marshall finally gave permission.

If and when you do obtain permission to examine the photos and X-rays, there is a caveat which should be borne in mind, and I hope you will not consider me melodramatic for uttering it—that is, I believe that there is at least a possibility that the photos and X-rays have been doctored. I believe this because of the discrepancies, anomalies and ambiguities which have emerged from the several examinations already made by a variety of parties.

I have not worked actively on the JFK case for a good many years now, partly because of ill health and partly because it seemed to me not necessary to continue to prove, over and over again, that the Warren Report is a fraudulent document. Any reexamination of the case that is to have validity must confront that fraudulence, which is fundamental, and not merely seek to hang the case around the neck of Fidel Castro. As I need hardly emphasize, that is the fall-back position of the Establishment now that it is virtually compelled to abandon the hypothesis of the lone assassin.

Since I have not been working on the case, I doubt if I have anything in my files on the autopsy which is not already available to you. I do not ever allow my materials to leave my personal custody. However, when you come to Washington, perhaps you will make a detour to New York and I would gladly let you look over what I do have with a view to making copies of anything you might want.

I should perhaps say that I will be leaving to travel abroad, in mid-January 1977, for a period of three months. I send you my heartfelt good wishes for the success of your work and will be looking forward eagerly to the results. Please do not hesitate to write to me at any time.

Yours most sincerely,

Sylvia Meagher

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