

14 October 1971

Mr Gary Schoener
2421 Chicago Ave S
Minneapolis 55404

Dear Gary,

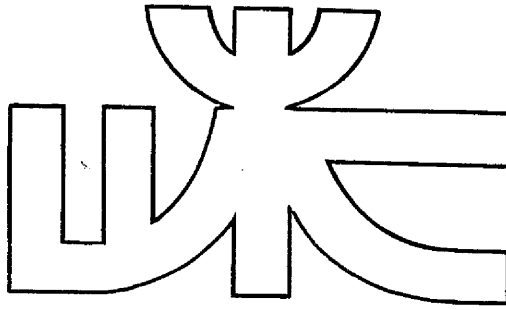
I am sending you under separate cover by 4th class mail five copies of the Texas Observer with my Givens article and Belin's "reply". Is that what you wanted? I do not have spare copies just now of my subsequent exchange of letters with Belin but if you can get them from Harold or anyone else, fine. Otherwise, let me know.

I have already had a talk with Ned Crosby, earlier this week, about the matters you raise in your letter of the 11th. I do not know if I made myself clear to Ned about reviewing the ms. of his condensation of Harold's PM, I think I digressed. What I intended to say was that I would happily review his ms. but that the pressure of work at the UN from now until at least the end of the year is such that I could not make time until about January/February 1972. I'd be grateful if you would clarify this with Ned when you next speak to him, in case I was as vague as I suspect I was.

During our talk, I told Ned that I completely disagree with Harold about the Kennedy family. I am glad that you don't buy his naive theory either. As for Wecht and the autopsy X-rays and photos—I am simply excruciated with exasperation at the way Harold has made an alarmist-mountain out of this matter and involved Ned, and you, and me. If Harold had any worry, he needed only to phone or write to Cyril. I do not think that there is any "real issue" since I have no reason to believe that "Cyril is definitely going to view them" as you say in your letter. Where did you get that information? So far as I know, it has no basis in fact; but if it does turn out to be true, then of course the problems you outline will arise.

I have been instrumental in Cyril's decision to make a formal request to view the X-rays and photos. To me it was unthinkable to allow the five-year moratorium to elapse without any show of continuing keen interest in examining that material—the kind of default that might later haunt the critics as a group. I have also given Cyril a round-up of material to refresh his recollection of the discrepancies and crucial points for evaluation, if and when he gets access to the material, and have suggested to him that before he makes the examination—assuming he gets permission—he should obtain advice and suggestions from the most knowledgeable critics, certainly having in mind Harold, among others, and if possible hold a meeting with Tink Thompson and myself and other critics to thrash things out thoroughly in advance. But all this seems to me purely academic because I am convinced that Wecht has not and will not get ^{permission} to see the autopsy photos and X-rays. I suggest that we all calm down until there is some definite reason for concern, at which time I am sure we will all use our best judgment and safeguard the position of the critics. All my good wishes for your work in the free clinic which I feel sure is positive and satisfying. Best regards,

*(While typing
this letter got
Collect call from
HW, 2 hrs, usual
mysteries x
disc warnings)*



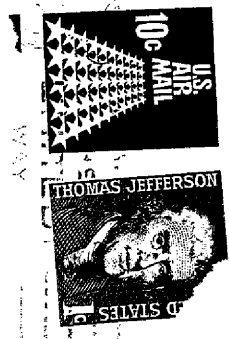
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