

MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455
January 19, 1967

Dear Vince,

This is just to let you know that I haven't forgotten the piece of work I promised you on the section of the autopsy dealing with the head wounds. I was very sick for about 1½ weeks and have thus been slowed up considerably, but I am now in the process of putting it together. Since the pathology department here doesn't use standard diagrams or face sheets in its autopsies, I am preparing my own.

I was wrong about the Commission not doctoring the information on the head wounds. I'm sure that they tailored them to their own needs, but fortunately they were very sloppy and made a careless job of it. Any trauma to the head which is fairly severe causes what is known as a contre-coup lesion on the opposite side of the brain. (I will explain all of this completely when I send you my completed work.) As best I can diagram the contre-coup lesion in this case, it indicates a wound from the right front or side, delivered from a point at best slightly behind the car and more likely beside or in front of the car. Only someone trained in assessment of brain damage (at least to the degree I am) would have noticed this, so it is no wonder they didn't alter it in the autopsy. A shot from Oswald's alleged position could not have caused such a lesion.

The second thing which is apparent from the medical material is that Commission Exhibit 386, the diagrammatic representation of the head wounds, is a joke. I think that I can prove that the large jagged wound extended completely over the area where they claim there is a small wound of ^{entrance} exit. (location according to the diagram, that is) Furthermore, the diagram places the alleged entrance wound in the head quite a bit above the spot where the written autopsy report locates it. This is significant since if it were where the written report locates it and not where it is shown on the diagram, then it couldn't have caused the

MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455

massive damage to the dorsal aspect of the brain and it could not have exited through the massive wound on the right side.

The part of the report which was doctored is the description of the wound on the dorsal aspect of the brain. According to their own description, it matches up with neither the alleged entrance or the alleged exit wounds! I suspect that this wound was a massive, ragged wound which resulted from a fragmenting bullet fired from the right side. They tried to make it seem as though it left a clear track from Back to front. This at first sounded impressive until I realized that such a wound would not match up with either the entrance or exit wounds.

The damage to the right hemisphere was apparently more massive than their description of the wounds indicates, since they couldn't even describe the sulci and gyri on the right side due to this damage. (The surface of the brain is covered with grooves called sulci and ridges called gyri. If the damage was just to the dorsal part of the hemisphere, there would still be enough gyri and sulci to make a simple judgment of size, which they could not do!) This all reinforces the idea that the shot from the right was a fragmenting bullet of some type.

Some of the damage to the brain cannot even be located with certainty due to the sloppiness and omissions in the autopsy of the head. I will try to sketch these out with the alternative possibilities of bullet paths drawn with dotted lines. This is quite a frustrating task since the autopsy report is so inadequate. Someone wasted a great deal of money paying for Commander Hume's 4 years in medical school.

My work with the Jarnegan item is coming more slowly since I must wait several weeks to receive microfilm of newspapers through inter-library loan procedures.

The man who you pointed out on the Zapruder film as someone who may have been giving hand signals just may have been arrested at the scene. I have an eyewitness account from the (Dallas) Daily Times Herald of Nov. 22, 1963 which describes the arrest of a man in the vicinity of the Book Depository. The important thing about this arrest is that the man was pointed out to a police officer by workers tapping on the 3rd floor windows of the Depository. Since none of the assassins would have actually fired from the crowd, the only other explanation seems to be that the man they pointed out may have been giving signals. In any event, it would be interesting to check the Dallas police files. Even if he was a Federal agent, they would probably have some record of his arrest. It would also be interesting to interview those workers who watched the motorcade from the 3rd floor.

I think I gave you the description of the possible get-away car when I was in Phila., but here it is again. Remember the white station wagen with a luggage rack on top which picked up a man in the vicinity of the Depository who was later identified as Oswald by Deputy Craig? A car of the same description with two white males was spotted some time later by a gas station attendant who thought there was a rifle in the back seat. He took down the license plate as PE 3435. It would be interesting if this turned out to be Mrs. Paine's license plate number, since the description of the car is the same as her's, (When Oswald was confronted by Craig, he said that the car was her's, but that she wasn't involved.)

UNIVERSITY OF *Minnesota*

MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55455

Well, good luck with your research. I'll send you
my report and diagrams when they're finished. Please
don't waste any time answering this letter--I'll be more
interested in your reactions to the results of my research.

Gary Schoener