

May 13, 1975

The Honorable Nelson A. Rockefeller
Chairman, Commission on CIA Activities
Within the United States
712 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Rockefeller:

As the official record will indicate, the deposition that was taken of me by your Senior Counsel, Mr. Robert B. Olsen, on Wednesday, 7 May 1975, lasted approximately five hours and fifteen minutes, with no breaks or interruptions of any kind. A reading of the transcript will also indicate to any intelligent observer that Mr. Olsen's line of questioning was quite detailed and tenacious. Furthermore, the deposition will indicate to any trained legal observer that the thrust of Mr. Olsen's questions was much more in the form of cross-examination than simple elicitation of direct testimony.

I do not cite these items to register any complaint, but merely to keep the record clear. Mr. Olsen was courteous at all times.

I assume that if your Commission is evaluating the JFK assassination with an open mind and an objective approach, the questioning of Dr. John Lattimer and the members of the medical panel appointed by your Commission will proceed in essentially the same fashion and format as mine. I shall be most interested to learn about the depositions of these people, in order to determine whether Mr. Olsen doggedly challenged every point and opinion that they made with the same degree of intensity and fervor that he did in his examination of me.

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I also trust that the members of the so-called "independent forensic science panel" will be questioned as I was concerning their motives and possible economic gains vis-a-vis their willingness to become involved in this matter. It is interesting how the defenders and apologists of the Warren Commission Report always try to create an inference that anyone who dares attack the credibility and accuracy of the Report must be doing so for economic benefit. I wonder if Mr. Bellin and Mr. Olsen are as interested and concerned about possible material benefits that might accrue to the newly enlisted defenders of the Warren Commission Report, especially when they apply for grants from the Federal Government in the future.

Frankly, I have grave doubts about the open-mindedness and objectivity of your Commission with regard to the JFK assassination. I have seen recent correspondence between the Executive Director of your Commission, David Bellin, and private citizens who had the "audacity" to challenge him on several aspects of the Warren Commission Report. Mr. Bellin's responses can best be described as those of a religious zealot vis-a-vis his defense of the Warren Commission Report. How in the world can your Commission honestly and scrupulously re-evaluate the JFK assassination in light of the fact that David Bellin, the Commission's Executive Director, has been for the past ten years, and remains today, the most ardent, fanatical, defender and apologist for the Warren Commission Report?

I have a fairly good idea of what to expect when your Commission's final report is published, insofar as your inquiry into the JFK assassination is concerned. Therefore, I am writing this letter at this time so that it will be part of the official files, and will clearly portray for interested, neutral, and independent observers in the future the tenor and psychological background that existed at the time of your Commission's investigation.

Very truly yours,

Cyril H. Wecht, M.D., J.D.

CHW/mg

cc: Robert B. Olsen, Esquire
Senior Counsel, Commission on CIA
Activities Within the United States