

26 April 1971

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

Dear Cyril,

Thanks for your letter of the 19th. Yesterday I visited Tink Thompson at Haverford, whom I had not seen for two years. There was much to discuss and catch up with, including the submittal of a request to Burke Marshall.

Tink and I both feel that in the first instance you should make the request for yourself alone; if and when that is granted, you can always raise the question of extending the agreement to cover a technical adviser or advisers, whereas to ask for the inclusion of others, at the outset, might lessen the prospect of approval where you yourself are concerned.

Your credentials, especially as President of the Academy of Forensic Sciences and as a contributor to the issue of the Journal of the AAFS that was largely devoted to the Warren Report, should make it difficult for Marshall to refuse access. In fact, it would be useful and logical after the passage of five years and the body of new information which has emerged during that time about the autopsy, to consider an article up-dating and reappraising the post-mortem findings. That would certainly be a legitimate reason for seeking to examine the photographs and X-rays.

Should you receive permission to examine these materials, I believe you might then wish to consider sending a circular memo to a number of the serious researchers and critics--especially those who have given particular study to the autopsy and ballistics evidence--inviting their suggestions in advance of your inspection. I can suggest some names, in due course.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Tink, who will also be writing to you on this subject before long.

David Belin has sent a lengthy "reply" to my article on Charles Givens, copy of which I left with Tink yesterday to read and then forward to you, together with related correspondence, as I could not make sufficient sets of copies. As I expected all along, Belin was unable to make any kind of refutation of the facts set forth in the article, and I think you will agree when you read his rambling commentary that he hasn't got a leg to stand on.

Best regards, as always,

Sincerely,

Sylvia Neagher
302 West 12 St
NYC 10014

cc Tink Thompson