

9 November 1966

Dear Dr. Feinberg,

I have just had the incredible experience of listening to a tape of the Long John program of last week on which you and Dr. Cyril Wecht discussed the Warren Report and in particular the autopsy findings.

To begin with, you said (speaking of the autopsy surgeons), "I'm hoping that you'll say that other pathologists were called in to review their findings..." You could not have been "hoping" very hard, because when Dr. Wecht told you a short while later that there was no review of the autopsy findings by outside pathologists, you were not at all dismayed. On the contrary--now you found solemn reasons why, after all, it was a good thing, indeed, an absolute virtue, that no independent forensic pathologist had been asked to evaluate, review, or give an opinion of post-mortem findings that have aroused grave suspicions on the part of informed and responsible persons all over the country.

Since you were not in command of facts or valid arguments, you fell back repeatedly on "trust and confidence in an august body such as the Warren Commission." That, sir, and I believe Dr. Wecht made the point, is metaphysics, not science; moreover, it is an abdication of the individual's duty to exercise intelligence, judgment, and a strict concern for justice. No doubt Germans in the 1930s were filled with "trust and confidence" in their august officials and official bodies. Perhaps you can draw the necessary conclusions from that fact?

From your acknowledged state of unfamiliarity with the evidence presented in the Warren Report and the 26 volumes of testimony and exhibits, you would have been better advised not to fill the air with gelatinous platitudes and infantile sanctimony. If you are too busy to inform yourself about a subject, at least let those who have taken the trouble to master the facts use the available time, so we may have that well-informed public to which you paid such unctuous lip service. The whole concept of blind trust and faith in eminent men is alien to the democratic principle, as you should not need to be reminded.