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FORENSIC PATHOLOGY
LEGAL MEDICINE

December 29, 1966

Miss Sylvia Meagher
302 West 12th Street
New York, New York 10014

Dear Sylvia:

Thank you for having sent me the excerpts from the forthcoming Ramparts article that will appear in the January 1967 issue. Certainly, I agree with the principles of physics that are set forth in Doctor Riddle's comments. However, keep in mind two caveats that he himself mentions:

1. Doctor Riddle states that - "This assumes, of course, that there are no mitigating effects". The back brace and binding that covered the low back, perineal and upper thigh regions cannot be casually ignored in this context. Also, are we absolutely certain that the car did not suddenly accelerate after the first shot was fired?
2. Doctor Riddle then says - "On the assumption that a neuromuscular reaction can be ruled out as the cause for this sudden violent backward motion"
Are we able to rule out the possibility of all such neuromuscular reactions?

I guess that I am merely trying to play the role of the devil's advocate. I am as deeply puzzled and concerned about the Zapruder films as Doctor Riddle is, and I do not have a satisfactory answer.

I did send to Congressman Kupferman the biographical sketch that he had requested. I hope that he has received it; apparently, there must have been some delay because of the Christmas mail rush. Incidentally,

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some friends from the New York area have told me that they heard Mr. Kupferman state on television that he hoped to conduct a Congressional inquiry into the autopsy photos, x-ray films, etc., and that he planned to have Doctor Helpern and me review these things for him. Did you hear this particular T.V. broadcast? If so, please tell me in what framework the remarks were made.

Sigrid joins me in sending kindest personal regards to you. Again, let me thank you for your gracious hospitality during our visit to your home a few weeks ago.

Sincerely,

Cyril H. Wecht
Cyril H. Wecht, M.D., LL.B.

CHW/pat

P.S. - Congratulations on the wonderful news concerning the publication of your book! I know that it will be a very successful and worthy venture.