

27 January 1967

Dear Dr. Wecht,

May I impose on you again for a point of technical information, which I need urgently for possible incorporation in my book?

In the autopsy report and testimony, the location of the entrance wound in the back (or the back of the neck) is given as 14 cm. below the right mastoid process and 14 cm. from the tip of the right acromium. Had you been performing the autopsy and writing the autopsy report, would you have used those two points (the right mastoid process and the tip of the right acromium) as bases for measurement?

I raise the question because Harold Weisberg, in his book Whitewash II, makes a point which seems to me, as a lay person, to have considerable importance: that is, that the position of the wound was indicated by its distance from anatomical points which were not fixed but "flexible." Weisberg points out that in the case of both the Oswald and Tippit autopsy reports, the wounds are located in relation to the spine or the spinal vertebrae, which are fixed. He infers that the standard procedure in postmortem reports is to base measurements (where appropriate) on the fixed "midline" so as to achieve maximum precision.

I should be grateful to know how you evaluate Weisberg's suggestion and how you yourself normally locate wounds that can be related to the spinal column.

If this is clear, chalk up another miracle. With many thanks, and best regards,

Sincerely yours,

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