

CYRIL H. WECHT, M. D., LL. B.  
1417 FRICK BUILDING  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15219

281-9090

FORENSIC PATHOLOGY  
LEGAL MEDICINE

April 26, 1967

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

Dear Sylvia:

Your letter of 22 April 1967 poses a very real problem and one that interests me as a lawyer and a civil libertarian. Philosophically and from the standpoint of "fair play", a person should not be subjected to serious charges on skimpy evidence, particularly when such evidence comes from the mouths of highly suspect witnesses. On the other hand, from a technical and legal standpoint, it is often necessary for the prosecuting attorney to hold back his trump cards for the major ballgame and play only those cards that are minimally necessary to win the preliminary event.

In the New Orleans situation, I should like to believe that Garrison does have better witnesses whom he is keeping in the wings until an appropriate time. In light of all the events and factors surrounding this whole business, I would be hesitant about seriously reprimanding him for not having produced his best witnesses at the pre-trial hearing. In any event, we shall have to wait and see whether or not he is acting in good faith and moving on fairly solid ground.

I did receive copies of the resolution from Kupferman. It is somewhat amazing that such an important legislative action received little or no publicity.

Unfortunately, I doubt that the anesthesiologist who made the comment about the bullet hole being in the front of President Kennedy's head would ever repeat that statement publicly. Of course, in any official proceeding conducted by the United States Congress, he probably could be subpoenaed and asked to affirm or deny under oath the statement that has been attributed to him. This should be

Miss Sylvia Meagher  
April 26, 1967  
Page 2

kept in mind should any sort of official re-investigation ever take place.

I am happy to hear that your book is moving along so well and that you may also have a revised edition of your Subject Index on the market soon. Both would be valuable works.

I shall let you know in advance of my next visit to New York, which I hope will be soon.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

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

CHW/pat