10/4/71

RB (RB),

Before long I have to go into town, so this hasty note to save a day. I'm reading and making changes in the two existing parts of POST MORTEM. On the panel part, I'm on p.54. In the course of scanning the panel report again while going over what I've said about it, it suddenly occurred to me that only my lack of knowledge of anatomy and my failing to take the time to check the meanings of the medical works kept me, as it seems to have others, from learning that what you were told about the fine-fragment distribution in the head is there but hidden in semantics and medical terms.

So, I write for two things: first, if you have no objection, to using your interpretation, for there is room in this chpater if you agree (perhaps in belongs later, where there may not be room.). There are but 5 lines on the last page, and it won't take that long to repage from where I use it. I may, perhaps, be able to add it as a note on the last page. It has been so long since I wrote this that without completing the reading I won't know if I go into this later, as I spect I did again. The part where it may be relevant begins on p. 51.

In the original version of the panel report, the parts I think relevant begin at the bottom of p. 10, and are in more detail at the bottom of 11, as I recall. If you are uncertain of the antecedents of your copy, I used the DJ copy in the part of the appendix of Ph III you have.

If I am correct, this is no credit to any one of us. The give-away in the sentence beginning at bottom 11, "It appears to end anteriorily immediately below the badly fragmented frontal and parietal bones....

Christ! Doesn't this say that the beginning of the forward or front-head distribution is at the very front of the head? Of these fine particler? And could those fine particles have added what I've emphasized, bad fragmentation?

The only difference is in their use of the word "ends", which is correct but is deliberate, to complete the wrong thing. It "ends" in two places, and this is the beginning in terms of a shot, rather than a path. So?

I don't use this if you'd prefer I not. But if you have no objection of if you'd prefer that I do, I'd appreciate the briefest statement of fact you consider appropriate of the ballistics part. I can then work it in, if appropriate, here. If, as I suspect, it really belongs in the X-ray chapter, which follows, the last page is 71 and I'd have to do one of two things: contract that chapter or, what is easier, add what space is required by adding a page. I thought I had a X-ray chapter and I just checked. I do.

The problem of repaging will face me anyway. I hope, by the end of this week, to complete the reading and correcting I see. I've done I. Then I will take out the files on each Howard segreagated fro the large files I'd accumulated for each part and go over each suggestion others have made. I kept all. After having read the whole thing, I'll be better able to understand and appraise them. Then we'll start incorporating the changes in I first, then II, which was III, and then I'll have to renumber the pages beginning with the beginning of I. Adding a page at the end of the X-ray part if no problem at all, and if the addition should come in that chapter (recommenations from both solicited), that is not too-great a problem.

Hastly,