

Dear Dick,

7/14/76

Today I received and read the appeals court decision in my JFK appeal.

I understated too much in my hasty letter of yesterday morning.

In the little time I've had to think about it I have become convinced that they have given me - alone - a personal license to hunt the FBI and basic JFK scientific evidence without any reason but with the mandate of speed.

They have not told me what I may do. Their word is "must."

While the decision was now without concern for my "interest" it went amazingly farther and spoke of the interest of the "nation" in what I see and my capability of seeking it.

It is explicit on the need for discovery and emphatic on the need for depositions. This is another on those "must" areas in it.

It did not limit itself to whether the records I seek now exist. It speaks of their ever existing. Imagine this broad inference of destruction of the evidence!

Amplifying what the judges said at the oral arguments the decision explains the urgency of my obtaining and preserving the irrefragable personal knowledge of those who knew of the "events." On and on!

She does not think this can be appealed. The decision makes clear that the appeals court will not assent. The condemnation of the judge for not resolving existing disputes about essential facts is as severe as it is polite.

The remand concludes with a directive that all that comes now be consistent with the decision.

I see in this decision limitations imposed by my financial capabilities only, much more than I had imagined without reading it. I see no real way the district court can stop my deposing anyone with knowledge of the relevant "events." This means all those in the autopsy room; all those in the emergency room at Arland Hospital; all those who took or saw and can have independent competent opinions on the autopsy pictures and X-rays; all those who handled any of the ballistics or ballistics-related evidence (which can include the hospital engineer who first saw the "magic bullet," the security man to whom he gave it, the Secret Service man to whom he gave it, the former Secret Service chief to whom it was delivered, the FBI agents who took it to the lab, etc. ad infinitum; top Navy medical brass, including but not limited to the then chief surgeon (who ordered no real autopsy) and chief of the Bethesda installation; all the FBI lab agents; all the FBI p.r. people and leaders; all their liaison people; Rick Katzbach; and a large number of top-schelon FBI people of the "cover era.

I would not want to depose all. I would not want to stretch the mandate of the decision. I am only indicating what is reasonably possible from the decision and what the depositions can hold.

As one illustration of what this can mean only as it relates to what I'm using for: do you think the doctor who told me the President was shot in the front of the neck and above the line of the clothing (which he also swore to), what destroys the entire official "narration," is not going to say he is a perjurer - under oath? Do you think that the Navy admiral who was the President's personal physician will now swear that his (suppressed) death certificate is fraudulent? (If he does not the whole thing is on this and very dramatic basis alone kept - and it is relevant to the tests I have not been given on the "magic bullet.")

Any resistance to any of this magnifies all - excitingly and culpably. I can't see how an instant hardback can fail. I hope I can hear from you soon. Best,