

Dear Wallace Wilam,

12/24/75

I've a lingering case of phlebitis. There are but two of us, so sometimes, despite my best efforts, things stack. This accounts for the delay in responding to your 12/18, the kind comments in which I do appreciate.

All I can now do is attempt to answer your questions briefly. They are good questions.

In order to get any access to the pictures of the tie I had to be my own lawyer, as reported in Post Mortem, in C.A.2569-70. The judge, then opposed to the FOI Act, went for a compromise, they'd take pictures for me but give me no copies. Hence I could not print them. Don't have them. Thought I'd described this, though. Remember, this was more than 5 years ago and it is still new but not in all details in my mind.

Handling Dr. Perry and treating him fairly was a tricky thing. I also could not tape him because this could have been used to clobber him. They leaned on him hard. Any recorded contrary account could be used to charge him with perjury.

By the time he got there Carrico and the nurses had already cut the clothing off so Perry had no independent knowledge of relationship with the shirt and tie and was much too bust to examine them. He went from there to work on Connally.

He did describe the horizontal incision for what is not called a tracheotomy. In that unprecedented moment when he knew the President was dead he did it a comest way, horizontally, where on healing the scar become invisible.

Between the pressures of the illness and the accumulated work and all the other things I've done in the intervening years I've no clear recollection of the length of the incision. I'd had thought it was longer than the size of the wound. Much. They had to get tubes in and be able to work. However, I did not think it was that long, about 2 5/8 inches.

Frankly, I see nothing suspicious about anything any of the Dallas doctors did in that moment of crisis. What was done to them thereafter I regard as obscene. I am verry sorry for Perry, who I regard as a decent man. Carrico ~~was~~ was quite straightforward with me. McClelland tried to be nastier than I report. I'd have like to have been able to interview others but there were a) away and b) dispensible. I regard the evidence as overwhelming and as perhaps you can understand, any one thing I do means that something else goes undone. I also didn't have the money to wait.

Please excuse the typos. It is after a sick-man's bed-time Xmas Eve.

Again sincere thanks,

December 18, 1975

Harold Weisberg  
Route #12  
Frederick, Md.

Dear Sir;

I have just finished POST-MORTEM. I consider it one of the most important books I have ever read. I believe you are by far the most proficient and effective investigator in the JFK affair. I hope you will be able to keep up the work.

Enclosed find \$7.25 for cost of a copy of WHITEWASH II: THE FBI-SECRET SERVICE COVERUP. Send it immediately, please.

One thing has bothered me about information in the POST-MORTEM account of the neck wound (two things actually):

(1) why did you not include a photograph showing the underside of the tie?

(2) did you talk to Dr. Peryy about the location of the throat wound? Did he have an opinion (seeing the President's neck and throat without a tie or buttoned collar) about whether the wound was above it? Is a location above the collar unusually high up for a tracheotomy to be made?

(3) What do you make of the width of the neck wound-incision on the Autopsy Descriptive Sheet (seemingly given at 6.5 cm)? From an original of 3-5 mm, a tracheotomy would not nearly produce so wide a cut, would it? Even if done by the horizontal method described by Dr. Carrico?

Please ship book to: Wallace Milam  
#30 Troy Road Apartments  
Dyersburg, Tenn. 38024

(This is different than previous address given you.)

Again, let me say how much I appreciate what you are doing. You have to be our best hope.

Appreciately yours,

*Wallace Milam*  
Wallace Milam