

also told SM, RB, Refusedly

CONFIDENTIAL

xx 11/15/70

Mary, Gary, Howard,

Please, no loose talk, no talk of any kind about this.

I have just learned from a new source that the autopsy head pictures were examined by federal agents.

That is about all I've learned thus far. I have asked a series of questions of my source. It will be some time before he can answer and I have no way of knowing what he can add.

I do know his source and much about him. He is one of those who did the examining. My hunch is that they didn't know enough to interpret what they saw at the time they did it.

As you know, there is another means by which I may be able to carry this forward, but it is premature to try until I know all my source knows. He is not an expert, not a buff, just concerned.

I had always assumed this, as probably at least some of you also did. But knowing that it did happen is better than guessing it.

As you realize, this fits nicely with other things I've learned, relevant things.

Best,

November 4, 1970

Mr. Harold Weisberg  
Myattstown, ~~Missouri~~ 2073A  
*Maryland*

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

On February 19, 1970, I telephonically contacted the secret service agent in charge of the Seattle office, Elmer Moore, in reference to a photograph reproduced on page 128 in Josiah Thompson's book "Six Seconds in Dallas".

Mr. Moore said he never read the book or many others that were critical of the Warren Commission's basic conclusions. This did not surprise me. Nor did it surprise me that he lectured me for some forty minutes on my "anti-logical, somewhat anti-patriotic" suspicions in reference to the report. He said it was, of course, the most thoroughly investigated crime in American History, etc., etc.. Then he said something that did surprise me to no end.

He said he and others studied the photos of President Kennedy's head wounds and that nothing was out of the ordinary? He told me that the photos could not prove anything worthwhile. I asked him about having competent medico-legal personnel take a look at the photos. Again, he said something to the effect, "It wouldn't prove anything".

I believe that agent Moore was either lying to me or that the Warren Report statements are a fraud as to the status of the autopsy photos. Could you make a comment on this?

I am also interested in agent Moore's role in the actual investigation. He told me he was involved in the investigation on a high level.

Agent Moore also was dumbfounded or taken back when I asked him where he was on November 22, 1963, as he was supposed to be assigned to the Dallas office.

(He failed to submit a written report according to Sylvia Meager's book "Accessories After the Fact".) After a pause, he said he was in San Francisco. I suppose he was, but by this point in our conversation I was suspecting him of credibility gaps.

Since this phone conversation with agent Moore, I've tried to learn as much about this awful thing as I can. I believe you can best respond to my questions about agent Moore's assertions better than most, since you were one of the first to gather data on the subject. I would be very grateful for any comments or data you could supply me with. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



James Gochenaur  
135 Harvard  
Seattle, Washington

11/15/70

Mr. James Gochensur  
135 Harvard  
Seattle, Wash.

Dear Mr. Gochensur,

Your letter of 11/4 was delayed reaching me because we left Hystertown three years ago and my mother-in-law, who has been forwarding the mail, was hospitalized. It is a fascinating thing you report, and credible. It makes sense, despite the contrary misrepresentations that are evasive enough to lend more credibility to this.

"Core was in such a capacity as he represented to you. He was one of the Commission-Secret Service liaison. In one case, he produced for the Commission what the FBI was holding back.

I would appreciate it very much if you would try to recall, in finest detail, what he told you about their examination of the pictures of the President's head. Especially, who was in on it. Was it just Secret Service? When? Where? What purpose, if any special (it should have been done, of course). My hunch is that it was in either Tom Kelley's office or in White House PRS, depending on when it was done. Please include everything, for you are not in a position to know what that may seem inconsequential may be of greatest significance. Did he say, for example, what kind of pictures, of what size? Prints? Transparencies? Black and white, color, both? FBI there? Commission staff? Just Secret Service? And experts?

I do not suggest anything conspiratorial involving the Secret Service, not more than a coverup. However, without the knowledge later developed, they had no way of knowing whether or not these pictures had evidentiary value. Example, location of injuries with respect to fixed points (my work on this has advanced farxxv over my initial writings, where my suspicions were accurate.

I'll gladly comment on your question. I do not think "Core lied to you, and I do believe the error is in the Report. All reporting on the "status" of the autopsy pictures is false.

That you knew so much about "Core could have surprised him, accounting for delay in responding (and perhaps wondering if he should speak to you further).

This is potentially a very important thing. I strongly encourage you to keep it entirely to yourself and there is no other critic specializing in the medical evidence (I've done two of three parts of a large book on the autopsy alone, have filed two law suits relevant to it and plan more). Perhaps he may yet carry this further. I hope it is possible. Did he say anything about the X-rays or clothing? Did they have the autopsy doctors or the President's with them? Did he quote those with the President as saying anything? Were they among those examining?

Impatiently,