

Dear Mr. Burgess,

5/15/94

This time it is 3:42 a.m. as I begin. But I actually began earlier. I've just finished a lengthy letter ^{to} a New Zealand history professor who is a dear friend. If ^{he} did not explain, I live odd hours to cope with several medical problems. The ~~xxx~~ odd hours have most of my working day without any interruption at all.

I can tell you why so few academics and historians have been attracted to the JFK assassination: ^{not} it would hurt their careers keeps some out and the amount of work discourages others. Plus the fact that the field has been pretty much taken over by those some of whom are praised by your word, "~~the~~" "loonies." Like Posner.

McKnight's address is 5439 Shookstown Road, Frederick, Md. 21702. ~~He~~ He is currently overwhelmed with the work that ends each college year. Soon after the end he will be going to ^{Mem} Memphis for more work on his book on Dr. King's last project, the Poor Peoples' Campaign. Most of it is on the FBI's intrusions into it. He wants to go over oral histories at Memphis State and other contemporaneous records there.

When my NEVER AGAIN! appears, and it is long delayed and as of the last ^I heard should be out this September, you'll find much I think you can use for a paper on the location of the back wound.


I think that another dear friend, David Wrono, history department, University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point, can tell you perhaps more about the attitudes of the academic journals. Dave's home ~~address~~ address is 1548 Blackberry Lane, Stevens Point, WI 54481. He is the coauthor of the only professional bibliography in the field.

He wants to do a review of Case Open for such a journal and anticipates problems in placing it. It would be helpful to me, too, if he can place one. (So far I've heard of none anywhere.)

Feel free to use anything I've published that you may want to.

I think that HSCA published a medical artist's rendition of a picture of it. I have that picture. If you have it from any other source it would be a good precaution to check it carefully because some of those who have used it are not above touching up. And in using the picture, remember what I published, ^I now do not recall where, that the scapula was described to me as what I knew but had never thought of, by a then local radiologist, is "~~the~~ the floatingest bone in the body." Between the body erect and prone on the stomach, a point on the scapula can be moved two inches ~~upward~~ higher when prone with the arms extended than upright. "Try this on your wife, with a mark of a piece of tape and a tapemeasure, measuring from a fixed point ~~say~~ say a neck vertebra. Remember admiral Burkley's suppressed official death certificate that I rescued from oblivion in Post Mortem, at the level of the third thoracic vertebra.

Thanks and best wishes,


Harold Weisberg



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May 9, 1994

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

Thank you for the long letter of 24 April. I appreciate the time you took to type it (at 2 a.m. no less!). In the letter you say, 'For the full speed ahead of your 4/19 I'll have to get some jets mounted on my cane. I'm 81 now.' Face it, even without the jets you're faster and sharper than most people writing on the assassination today. I can't figure out why there are so many loonies attracted to the assassination and so few serious historians and academics.

Anyway, to the point of this letter. Enclosed please find a money order for US\$27.50 for *Oswald in New Orleans*. I look forward to reading it, whether it has appendices and index or not. Could you just slip an address for Prof. Gerald McKnight into the book (no need for a letter, if you don't have the time). I would like to correspond with him at some point. I am keen to publish a paper on the assassination (on the location of the back wound, a simple, easily explained, yet vital subject) in a respected academic journal and would like his advice on the possible response such a paper might get from an American journal.

Thanks again,

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard Burgess". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Richard Burgess

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