

Hysttown, Md. 20734
8/2/67

Dear Dr. Nichols,

Glad to get your letter. I've been intending to write you since the 7/18 story in the Washington Post, but I stay so busy + get behind. Generally speaking, I will help you in any way I can, but since an experience in which Paul Hoch was completely innocent, I have decided against making any of my materials available to others unless I first see ^{it} or decide I am not going to. I have in the past done a considerable amount of work for others, and I still get materials they request from the Archives for them. But I have found that on the subject of the autopsy in particular there is inadequate scholarship and my materials have first and improperly been used by others.

Please do not take this as an insult, intended or accidental. It is simply that this is an enormously complicated subject. As with a body, all the parts are but part of the whole. There is, to my mind, too much desire to regard the autopsy as something distinct and separate, to consider the medical evidence as divorced from the rest. From my point of view, this is hazardous and not helpful in the establishment of truth.

I have done no work on the adrenals themselves, so the unpublished material does not relate to them or to that still-suppressed part of the so-called autopsy examination.

Paul is correct in telling you that I intend to publish soon. I now plan a separate book on the autopsy and what I believe is most directly related to it. Depending on the kinds of things I cannot now compute and may not be able to estimate accurately, I believe I will have it done, meaning published, in less than two months.

What I will do to help you is this: I'll make copies of the documents and send them to you after my book is out. I'll also send you a copy from the first off the press. I will reproduce these documents in it. You need not pay in advance. If you'd like, we can do this with whatever else I publish. My New Orleans book will be ready soon. That I have already published is described in the enclosures.

I am, of course, quite happy that a competent medical man is getting interested in this aspect. When I can, I will do what I can.

Thank you for the reprint. I've been wanting to get that, too.

Paul may not have told you this, but we are only two people who have for several years worked so intensively on this that we both are well past the point of exhaustion and have no time for the things we believe essential. So, while I want to help others all I can, I cannot always do it promptly. May I also suggest that you read the chapter "The Doctors and the Autopsy" and "The Dubious Kennedy Inquest" in my first and second books, resp.?

There is one thing I have been looking for that you may have at your fingertips: a simple authoritative statement of the minimum requirements of an autopsy in a case of murder. If you have it, I'll appreciate it.

Sincerely, Arnold Weisberg



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SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY AND ONCOLOGY

July 29, 1967

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Hyattstown, Maryland 20734

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I, too, am interested in the assassination of the late President Kennedy and am preparing a short article for the medical press which will relate to the autopsy. Enclosed is a reprint of an article by myself entitled "President Kennedy's Adrenals" from the July 10, issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association. This may be of interest to you.

Thru the kindness of Mr. Paul Hoch I have learned that you have found some new documents in the National Archives pertaining to the autopsy. Mr. Hoch suggests that these will be in your forthcoming book "Documentary Whitewash" to be published by yourself at the price of \$5.00.

If Mr. Hoch is correct, I should appreciate if you could cite these documents to me so that I could purchase them from the archives. Also please put me down for your book when the first copies roll off the press and I will remit in full upon receipt. Or if you wish I can send you my check in advance.

Shall look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

John Nichols, M.D.

Associate Professor of Pathology