



## THE SUNDAY TIMES

P.O. Box 7 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-837 1234 Telex 264971

2 August 1975

Dear Harold, I enclose for your interest an article in The Times (London) by Louis Heren which I find extraordinary. I would not like to speculate in writing about the motivation behind it but looks spooky to me. I also enclose the article by William Shawcross from our magazine. I was under the impression from him that there was some possibility of doing a deal with you for your material but heard nothing more from him until the day the piece had to be finished (it was already laid out and could not be changed without great expense). I told him I thought that his piece would kill the possibility of a much better piece using your stuff. Cal McCrystal, our foreign news editor says he could not do anything about your material until after he had seen Willie's piece. But he thinks it unlikely there would be money in it although he fully realises the importance of your work and would be prepared to consider a piece describing your role and ~~giving you~~ presenting you as the central investigator in exchange for use of your material. The trouble is that things are tight financially at the moment - we are going to lay off some staff and Harold Evans is not keen on the subject. ~~the~~ <sup>Willie's</sup> magazine piece was done against his judgement.

I feel that I have been totally useless to you. One thing I would now like to try if all trails here lead to nothing is to interest BBC Horizon in the possibility of a documentary. I know there have been plenty already but it could be sold to them as a scientific programme because they ~~are~~ <sup>do</sup> only programmes with a science content. I gather from Willie's piece that you now have the neutron activation data and that would appeal to them in addition to all the forensic evidence.

I have had a gruelling year. My book with Sat. Review Press (Dutton) drags on with small points such as acknowledgements which take ages. And other jobs seem endless. <sup>(I am involved in an endless dispute about abortion which also has</sup> I got a science writers award - with my wife - <sup>fraudulent aspects & etc.)</sup> for two articles on childbirth which is nice.

By the way I have shown Willie Shawcross part of Post Mortem - is it all right to let him see the rest? - it did not occur to me until afterwards that I should really ask you first.

I am very flattered that you still want me to do a condensation and would like to do it but I cannot see that I will be able to find the time - I only wish I could. If my other book is a success and I can get more help

your project to take off because I believe in it.

If I can interest The Sunday Times in the project then I can use my ordinary time and really ~~get~~ do something. It might just be possible to work something out with tv.

But your letter is so full of hope that other channels are now opening that I feel your end will go first now."

with best wishes, sincerely,

*Oliver*

Oliver Gillie

P.S. Willie Shawcross said to the editor of the magazine\* that he wanted you to be paid for your help - so make sure you get something from him.

\* Magnus Link later.





3

Harold Weisberg,  
Route 8  
Frederick,  
Maryland 21701  
USA

