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FORENSIC PATHOLOGY  
LEGAL MEDICINE

July 29, 1994

Mr. Tom Chittum:  
23 Alabama Avenue  
Lake Hopatcong, New Jersey 07849

Dear Mr. Chittum:

I apologize for not having responded sooner to your letter of April 10th. However, I just recently received your correspondence from my publisher in New York.

I must confess to a very strong bias as it relates to Gerald Posner. I do not accept anything that he says, and consider his book to contain enumerable misrepresentations of a serious nature.

If Kellerman, a Secret Service Agent who was present in the car when Kennedy was shot, stated under oath that he heard JFK say something, why would anybody prefer to believe Posner?

I should like to urge you to obtain a copy of a complete rebuttal to Posner's book entitled Case Open by Harold Weisberg (address below). Mr. Weisberg, who is one of the most respected and knowledgeable JFK critic-researchers, has addressed many of Posner's misstatements in his book.

In light of your genuine interest in the JFK assassination, I should like to make you aware of a new organization, Coalition on Political Assassinations (COPA). Perhaps you might wish to consider becoming an active member and receiving our publication and other announcements. Also, we shall be conducting a conference in Washington,

Mr. Tom Chittum  
Page 2  
July 29, 1994

D.C., October 7-10. I shall see to it that you are sent membership and conference materials directly from the COPA office in D.C. in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

Cyril H. Wecht, M.D., J.D.

CHW/mb

cc: Mr. Harold Weisberg ✓  
7627 Old Receiver Road  
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Tom Chittum  
23 Alabama Ave.  
Lake Hopatcong NJ 07849  
(201) 663 4334 June 24, 1994

Dear Dr. Wecht:

I've not yet finished reading the segment of your book - CAUSE OF DEATH - which covers the death of President John F. Kennedy, but I had to write this letter to inquire about something that's been bothering me.

Secret Service agent Kellerman said President Kennedy spoke after he was hit. According to Kellerman, President Kennedy exclaimed, "My God, I am hit!" I thought it odd that someone who had a bullet pass through or near his windpipe could say anything.

I wrote the enclosed letter to Gerald Posner asking him what he thought about my observation, and Mr. Posner courteously replied. Since the letters contains nothing personal, I've enclosed them. Mr. Posner thinks Kennedy's wound would have prevented him from speaking, and therefore agent Kellerman (who is now dead) was mistaken in saying that Kennedy spoke after he was shot. I think that's an odd way of looking at things. Frankly, I think Mr. Posner may be discarding sworn evidence by a reliable witness because it doesn't fit his view of what happened.

I've no compelling reason to doubt what Kellerman said under oath. I doubt that agent Kellerman was lying or reporting hallucinations. I think he heard Kennedy say those words.

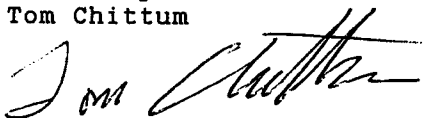
I'd like your learned medical opinion: Was it possible for Kennedy to speak after receiving the throat wound?

If it was possible, then there is no need for further consideration of this matter. However, if it was not possible for Kennedy to speak after receiving the throat wound then ... THE SEQUENCE ABSOLUTELY MUST BE:

- (A) Kennedy was struck in the back by a shot fired from behind. The round didn't exit.
- (B) Kennedy exclaimed, "My God, I am hit!"
- (C) Kennedy was struck in the throat by a shot fired from the front; the round didn't exit; Kennedy was struck in the head by one or more rounds fired from undetermined direction(s). (The throat wound almost certainly came before the head wound(s), but not necessarily.)

Please let me know if it was possible, in your medical opinion, for President Kennedy to speak, as agent Kellerman testified he did, after receiving the throat wound. I've enclosed a self-addressed envelope for your reply. Also, could you please describe the exact nature of the throat wound in layman's terms? Was the windpipe penetrated?

Sincerely  
Tom Chittum



Tom Chittum  
23 Alabama Ave.  
Lake Hopatcong NJ 07849  
(201) 663 4334

March 8, 1994

Dear Mr. Posner:

According to Secret Service agent Roy Kellerman, President Kennedy said, "My God, I am it!" (page 50, Warren report). The President must have spoken these words just after, and in reaction to, the shot through his neck.

I've seen the Autopsy photographs of President Kennedy, and the exit wound in his throat is just below the adam's apple and slightly off to the right, perhaps half an inch off center. Surely the bullet either passed through the windpipe or caused severe damage to the right side of the President's windpipe.

It seems odd to me that the President could have spoken after such severe injury to his throat. Still, I'm no doctor, and I was wondering if you had spoken to any doctors about this matter. If so, could you let me know what they said?

I've enclosed a self-addressed envelope for your reply.

Sincerely  
Tom Chittum

3/30/94

Dear Mr. Chittum -

Thank you for your good note of March 8. Regarding your query, you are right in assuming the President could not speak after his throat wound. Kellerman is wrong in his recollection of JFK speaking - no one else in the car gave such testimony - Although he was a trained SS agent, the great excitement and trauma of that day affected his recollection of events just as it did for many others -

Hope this is helpful -

Sincerely -  
Gerald Jones

PERSONAL DATA		TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE DATA		SELECTIVE SERVICE DATA		SERVICE DATA		VA DATA		AUTHENTICATION	
1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE <b>OSWALD, Lee Harvey</b>		2. SERVICE NUMBER <b>1653230</b>		3. GRADE OR RANK <b>EW (E-2)</b>		4. DATE OF RANK (Day, Month, Year) <b>Mar 59</b>					
4. DEPARTMENT, COMPONENT AND BRANCH OR CLASS <b>USMC</b>		5. PLACE OF BIRTH (City and State or Country) <b>New Orleans, Louisiana</b>		6. DATE OF BIRTH <b>18 Oct 39</b>		7. RACE <b>Caucasian</b>		8. SEX <b>Male</b>		9. MARITAL STATUS <b>Single</b>	
10. HIGHEST CIVILIAN EDUCATION LEVEL ATTAINED <b>High School - 1</b>		11. MAJOR COURSE OR FIELD <b>Academic</b>		12. TYPE OF TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE <b>Transferred to Marine Corps Reserve</b>		13. STATION OR INSTALLATION AT WHICH EFFECTED <b>H&amp;HS, MCAS, El Toro, (Santa Ana), California</b>		14. REASON AND AUTHORITY <b>226-Dependency. Par 10273 MARGORMAN &amp; MCO 1900.2B &amp; CG 3dMAW's 5th End of 31Aug59</b>		15. EFFECTIVE DATE <b>11 Sep 59</b>	
16. LAST DUTY ASSIGNMENT AND MAJOR COMMAND <b>AirFMFPac, MCAS, El Toro (Santa Ana) California</b>		17. CHARACTER OF SERVICE <b>HONORABLE</b>		18. TYPE OF CERTIFICATE <b>DD-217-MC</b>		19. SELECTIVE SERVICE NUMBER <b>N/A</b>		20. SELECTIVE SERVICE LOCAL BOARD NUMBER, CITY, COUNTY AND STATE <b>N/A</b>		21. DATE INDUCTED <b>N/A</b>	
22. DISTRICT OR AREA COMMAND TO WHICH RESERVIST TRANSFERRED <b>MARTC NAS, Glenview, Illinois</b>		23. TERMINAL DATE OF RESERVE OBLIGATION <b>8 Dec 62</b>		24. CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE OTHER THAN BY INDUCTION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENLISTED (First Enlistment) <input type="checkbox"/> ENLISTED (Prior Service) <input type="checkbox"/> REENLISTED		25. TERM OF SERVICE (Years) <b>3</b>		26. DATE OF ENTRY <b>24 Oct 56</b>			
27. PRIOR REGULAR ENLISTMENTS <b>NONE</b>		28. GRADE, RATE OR RANK AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE <b>Private</b>		29. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE (City and State) <b>Dallas, Texas</b>		30. STATEMENT OF SERVICE		31. YEARS		32. MONTHS	
33. HOME OF RECORD AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE (Street, RFD, City, County and State) <b>4936 Collinwood Street Fort Worth, Tarrant, Texas</b>		34. SPECIALTY NUMBER AND TITLE <b>6741: Avn Electronic Operator</b>		35. RELATED CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND D. O. T. NUMBER <b>Radio Operator Q-61.30</b>		36. CREDITABLE FOR BASIC PAY PURPOSES		37. (1) NET SERVICE THIS PERIOD		38. (2) OTHER SERVICE	
39. DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES, COMMENDATIONS, CITATIONS AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED <b>NONE</b>		40. WOUNDS RECEIVED AS A RESULT OF ACTION WITH ENEMY FORCES (Place and date, if known) <b>NONE</b>		41. SERVICE SCHOOLS OR COLLEGES, COLLEGE TRAINING, COURSES AND/OR POST-GRADUATE COURSES SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED		42. OTHER SERVICE TRAINING COURSES SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED		39. (3) TOTAL (Line (1) + line (2))		40. TOTAL ACTIVE SERVICE	
43. SCHOOL OR COURSE <b>Jacksonville, Florida</b>		44. DATES (From - To) <b>18Mar57-3May57</b>		45. MAJOR COURSES <b>AvnFundamentalCl "E" Scol AC&amp;WOperCrse</b>		46. OTHER SERVICE TRAINING COURSES SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED <b>USAFI CEE HSLevel</b>		40. (5) FOREIGN AND/OR SEA SERVICE		41. FOREIGN AND/OR SEA SERVICE	
47. GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE IN FORCE <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		48. AMOUNT OF ALLOTMENT <b>N/A</b>		49. MONTH ALLOTMENT DISCONTINUED <b>N/A</b>		50. VA BENEFITS PREVIOUSLY APPLIED FOR (Specify type) <b>NONE</b>		51. VA CLAIM NUMBER <b>N/A</b>			
52. REMARKS <b>Lump sum leave settlement due but not settled / Mileage paid: \$91.56 Recommended for Reenlistment. Home lost current active duty: Forty-five (45) days Periods in a non-pay status: From 29Jun58 to 12Aug58 Good Conduct Medal period commences 27Jun58 (1st Award) Total payment on separation: \$122.30 (9/11/59)</b>		53. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES AFTER TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE (Street, RFD, City, County and State) <b>Fort Worth, Tarrant, Texas 3124 W. 5th Street,</b>		54. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING TRANSFERRED OR DISCHARGED <i>Lee Harvey Oswald</i>		55. TYPED NAME, GRADE AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZING OFFICER <b>A.G. AYERS Jr, 1st Lt USMCR Ass't OIC SepSec</b>		56. SIGNATURE OF OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO SIGN <i>A. Ayers</i>			

DD FORM 214

NOV 55

REPLACES EDITION OF 1 JUL 52 WHICH IS OBSOLETE

ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES REPORT OF TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE

2

PAGE (1)