

17 September, 1963

Dear Dr. Cook:

I am the eldest niece of Ernst Kantorowicz - the one with whom he most frequently spent his vacations in St. John, including the last one. He mentioned your name frequently and I come to you with a request, hoping that this letter will reach you via the executors of his will.

Other than two telegrams which informed me of Ernst's death, I have had no news of the circumstances. I should like to ask you please to give me an account, if you can, of the immediate circumstances accompanying his death and, perhaps, some of the antecedents. I should like it to be brief, matter-of-fact, unvarnished and not designed to spare my feelings whatever these may be (I take it that you were familiar with my uncle's attitudes concerning life, disease and death - we were made of the same stuff in these respects). Nor am I concerned with the purely medical aspects, but rather in the course of events, their sequence and duration.

My request to you is based on the supposition that Ernst, as usual on returning from vacations, had a check-up with you; and on the assumption of the possibility or perhaps probability that you might have been in contact with him since approximately August 21 or 22 until his death; and that you might have even been present at that time or even shortly after. I am looking, in other words, for a first-hand account before a second or third-hand account reaches me.

I know that your time is limited. Please forgive me for making inroads on them. Ernst and I were very close. I should like to have this missing record of an exemplary life, even in circumstances were such as not to have corresponded to what he had desired of his ending.. Please accept my warm thanks for whatever you will and can tell me.

Sincerely yours,

Beate R. Salz