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Fine Photography

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December 17, 1963

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson, President,
United States Of America,
United States Capital,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President;

You are doing a remarkably fine job as our President, and I feel certain that I speak the feelings of most loyal Texans in saying that we are so proud of the actions taken by you in assuming the Presidency under the circumstances. You can do so much to help overcome the stigma placed on our great State by showing the world that you are proud of your home State, and that the very first President from Texas can be a good and great President. Please join with me in making this a matter of genuine sincere prayer, for with God's help, you can do anything that is pleasing unto him. And as you are well aware, our great Nation is the only truly Christian Nation on the face of the earth, and I am sure, that as long as we remain a Christian Nation, God will bless us and keep us secure and in his favor. Although I preferred a Protestant for President, I voted for John F. Kennedy, and he did not disappoint us in this respect. But I feel much more favorably that we are in the will of God by having a Protestant as our President. We will continue to remember you in our prayers.

Mr. President, Dallas has been the target for so much unfair criticism since the unfortunate death of President Kennedy, that something must be done to stop this radical talking. You can do just that.

First, Dallas was blamed for this incident as a city, which is most unfair. Our Police Department has really been blamed for everything but the actual pulling of the trigger. But you know that the Dallas Police was without any power to do anything except to assist the FBI and the Secret Service. They took all of the authority out of the hands of our local authorities, yet our fine Police Dept. gets all of the criticism and blame.

Not one single person with authority or prestige has commended Chief Curry and the Dallas Police Department with the fact that they captured the suspect, Lee Oswald, within one hour and 15 minutes, and without the help of the FBI or the Secret Service. In doing so, one officer lost his life, and another officer just barely missed losing his life as Oswald pulled the trigger on a gun aimed at this officer. Only the quick action of another officer who grabbed Oswald's gun just as he pulled the trigger, prevented the gun from firing. I think the fact that the suspect was captured by the Dallas Police Department so quickly certainly deserves real commendation from someone. Can't you do that? We have a fine Chief Of Police, and an excellent Police Department, and they deserve some praise for their excellent job.

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It seems to me that the FBI and Secret Service should share or take the blame for overlooking Oswald since they knew he was here and knowing he was not only a communist sympathizer but had defected to Russia and was married to a Russian girl. But all we hear is that they stated it was utterly impossible to protect the President from gunfire. They do not accept any of the blame, allowing the blame to fall on the Dallas Police Department completely.

And, when Oswald was shot by Jack Ruby, where was the FBI and Secret Service? With all of their protective know how, why were they absent?

I don't think the Dallas Police are to be blamed at all, and I feel strongly that your voice in this matter can help erase the stigma placed on Dallas, by your public commendation and praise for the fine work done by this Department in their quick action and daring efforts to apprehend Oswald. Can't you do this for this great State, this fine City and especially for Chief Curry and his excellent Police Department. Can't you cite this fine group for service above and beyond the call of duty? Then, you will find out how many Democrats there are in Dallas. And the ones who voted Republican will respect your actions.

And speaking of Party affiliations, I have been giving serious thoughts to the future of the Democratic Party. With you at the helm, it looks excellent and I will shortly send you a plan I have in mind for the future advancement of our party. This will take some time, but I think you will like the plan. It is too lengthy to go into it now.

Right now, I am so concerned about the blight cast on Dallas and our Police Department that I hope and pray that you can lend your voice to turn the tide and give Dallas some praise instead of all criticism.

Thank you Mr. President for reading this lengthy letter, and may God bless you and be with you every hour of every day in everything you say and do. Then, we can rest assured that our future is preserved and secure.

Sincerely,

M. M. Murphy
M. M. Murphy

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