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December 5, 1963

Mr. Tolson
 Mr. Belmont
 Mr. Mohr
 Mr. Casper
 Mr. Callahan
 Mr. Conrad
 Mr. DeLoach
 Mr. Evans
 Mr. Gale
 Mr. Rosen
 Mr. Sullivan
 Mr. Tavel
 Mr. Trotter
 Tele. Room
 Miss Holmes
 Miss Gandy

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Department of Justice
 Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N.W.
 Washington, D. C. 20204

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I cannot believe that the innuendo contained in the two marked sentences in this morning's Sun, editorializing the news report of your speech in a different context, correctly represents your views. These sentences plainly, by negative implication, seem to me to suggest that you agree with the chorus of those who blame the opponents of the Civil Rights Bill for the tragic assassination of the late President by a Communist. Many newspapers, Chief Justice Warren and others, are constantly trying to put the blame on the Southerners directly, and indirectly on all of us who, for constitutional and other reasons, oppose the present Civil Rights Bill. As shown by the shift in a quarter of a million votes in Philadelphia, opposition reflects the views of many people.

This tragic assassination was by a Communist, with no known connections with any right wing organization. Even if there had been a connection with some radical group addicted to violence, this would have constituted no ground for the attack on all of those who are labeled as bigots and rightists. As Burke said, you cannot indict all of the people, nor indeed a part. REC-56 02-102060-

Of course, I agree with you that one of the most difficult problems of anti-Communists comes from the fanatics on our own side - the type that suggests the Negro aspirations are communist inspired. But it is just as true that those of us who oppose the Civil Rights Bill cannot be blamed for the act of a Communist. As to this question, I certainly agree with the current "Life" editorial, my classmate Dave Lawrence's editorial in the current "U.S. News" and the quotation contained therein from the Wall Street Journal. As I wrote Glenn

Assassination of President John F. Kennedy

ENCLOSURE

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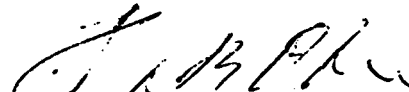
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

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Beall, a communist bullet cannot change the Constitution or the obligations of Congress to weigh legislation on the merits.

If, as I hope, you have made any public statement correcting the enclosed comments on your speech, I would appreciate it if you would get your secretary to send me a copy. If not, I hope you will let me know, as one of your admirers who has worked in a modest, and I believe moderate, way in the same field (Maryland law, A.B.A. Journal articles, etc.) whether the editorializing was justified.

Sincerely yours,



Frank B. Ober

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