

Letter to J. Edgar Hoover

- 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 ✓

Sir:

We require an explanation for the distribution of evidence the case of Lee Harvey Oswald.

We refer specifically to the photograph ("transparancies") of a man holding a rifle (?) on the cover of LIFE Magazine, February 21, 1964. This photograph was first reported in the hands of the Dallas police who removed it from the home of Mrs. Ruth Paine, November 23, 1963.

The Dallas police announced on November 25, 1963, that "all evidence in the case (having to do with the assassination)" had been turned over to the FBI at the request of that agency. This included the photograph.

Yet, the FBI (and you, sir) has recently stated that the case concerning the assassination "has NOT been closed" and will not be closed for many years.

How, then, did this particular piece of incriminating evidence fall into the hands of LIFE Magazine? Recent newspaper statements say that Marina Oswald sold this photograph to LIFE for \$5,000. How was Mrs. Oswald able, as early as February, 1964, to sell a prime piece of the people's evidence?

Certainly certain branches of the United States government have not conducted themselves in either a discreet or judicious manner in this regard. Nor have they done so in other instances of mishandled and concealed evidence.

The point to remember is that a much-loved President has been killed. Repeated attempts to pull the wool over the eyes of the public would be more successful (as they have been in the past) if so much were not at stake.

As it is, when one agency loses face, a whole nation may, too.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Mark E. Martin and Children
Hominy, Oklahoma
5/20/64

REC 45

470-3156

MAY 25 1964

cc: 100

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COPY RESPONS

COPY

Handwritten notes and stamps on the left margin, including "MAY 20 1964" and "DR. M. P. H."