

6th June, 1964

Inspector Chris Kockos
Dallas City Police Headquarters
Dallas, Texas, U.S.A.

Dear Inspector Kockos,

I deeply regret that I have to write you on such an unpleasant subject like this.

The erroneous article titled "New light on the assassination, a Secret Agent Story" attributed to me in U.S. News & World Report magazine of June 8, 1964, was a great surprise to me. The article contains a lot of inaccuracies as in the first place it was based on after-dinner discussion in a certain private party conducted in Japanese language, in which the correspondent did not have enough fluency, and in second place, he sent it with neither my consent nor my confirmation. Actually, it was not an interview, but a private discussion in an exclusive party in which I was informed that whatever one may say is assumed to be off the record, and I was also informed that occasionally this kind of party took place in past at the International House in Tokyo.

The host of that exclusive dinner party was Chief Superintendent Tsuchida, the director of Guard Bureau of M.P.D. Tokyo, and most of 8 participants were his intimate friends and were influential gentlemen such as a University professor, a foreign diplomat, Japanese columnist and so forth. ^{and} unfortunately U.S. news correspondent Glenn Froelstrup and his Japanese friend who is a son of Japanese Ambassador to a certain country were new comers and were not well informed of the character of the Party. During the dinner, we exchanged our opinions on various controversial issues such as Korean problem etc. After dinner, we relaxed at the lobby, and continued discussion. All of sudden, the discussion was focused on so-called "Tuchanzen Theory" which is now prevailing throughout Japan. It's sure you know the writer who maintained Oswald was not the assassin, and Dallas Police itself played a part in the assassination intrigue.

I was asked to express ^{my} opinion on the subject, as everybody knew I had just returned from U.S.A. So, I expressed my Personal belief and revealed my information gathered from unofficial news sources such as magazines in U.S.

Surprisingly enough, even that kind of covert information was still quite new here in Japan and participants listened and inquired very eagerly. The entire discussion was conducted in quite fast Japanese language, and it was obvious that Correspondent Froelstrup did not have complete fluency of Japanese to join the discussion, and he just sat quietly and he did not even take any note.

ENCLOSURE

Then, a lady raised a question whether there was any
confluence between Ruby and Dallas Police and that of Tippit and
David.

Remembering heart-warming hospitalities of you and your
people in Dallas, I emphatically denied it and in order to get
my point across the participants, I pointed out it was not
unnatural that Tippit was driving Police car alone as more than
half of Dallas Police force was assigned to the Presidential
guard. When a participant asked me if it is true that there were
a number of a Dallas Police officers who were frequently in
Ruby's place, and regularly accepted free drinks, I also denied
it and told them I never met any such officers in Dallas nor
detected any evidence that such was the case. I explained then
I saw the citation hanging on the wall of the office which
introduce us Dallas Police Headquarters as one of the finest
police organization in the world and also explained how high is the
reputation of the Chief of Police Jerry Owen in Washington D.C.
I was read an article which I found my compliment for Dallas Police
was twisted and appeared as a scolding criticism.

Later on, the correspondent admit his error and apologetically
explained it was twisted in reverse way because of insufficient
linguistic ability.

I had concentrated my criticism on so-called Juchannen theory
and tried to convince them how it is incredible.

Being impressed by my opinion, a participant suggested to me
to publish it in order to calight Japanese people through some
Japanese magazine. I answered I'll think it over, but as a police
officer I need superior's approval to do so. Then the party was
over. More than one month later, on 30th May, suddenly I was
informed that the correspondent, helped by his Japanese friend
who was also my contact, compiled our discussion into a story
attributed to me and sent it back to his editor.

Also I was informed that the story is going to be published
in U.S. News and World Report. The correspondent did not see
me thereafter, nor he did confirm me the detail of story.
Of course he did not request my consent, nor he did even inform
me he sent the same to his editor. As soon as I'd been informed
so, I did my best to stop it, but all in vain as they already
printed it and gave me no opportunity even to correct it.

This is my apologetic representation of what actually
happened.

I regret that I caused a great disadvantage to you and your
beloved Police force because of my carelessness.

But only one thing I wish you to believe me is that I have never betrayed your friendship.

Here I enclosed some materials which might help you to realize the situation. You are free to use any part of my letter and materials for publicity purposes except one statement which was made by Correspondent Trolstrup himself and signed by himself. As for this statement in first person made by Correspondent Trolstrup, Mr. Chill, legal attache of U.S. Embassy here and I gave our words to him that this is strictly for official use only within Japanese-U.S. Government agencies and law enforcement organizations and this will not be published. If you could pass my words on to Chief Charles Batchelor and other officer concerned including Mr. Roy Thomason of State Department, I would be most appreciative.

Already we took necessary steps to request the editor of the magazine to correct the errors and misquotation.

Please send my best regard and apology to your beautiful wife and lovely children who's hospitalities encouraged me when I was alone in Dallas.

With deep regret,

Truly yours,

Akiyuki Sassa
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