

TOP SECRET²¹

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introduction*

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

from: Jack Valenti

This is a serious and shameful problem. It is the problem of the incredibility of the Warren Commission that I found in Europe. The attached article from the ROME Daily American is typical of both opinion and comment, written and oral.

In short, the European is dead sure that the Kennedy death was not done by Oswald alone -- that it was a conspiracy of some kind -- and the Warren Commission either covered up or blundered.

This is not a lightly or rarely held view. It is deeply widening among the peoples of western Europe. It could become so malignant as to threaten seriously the very integrity of the American government.

What can be done about it?

One reason for the steadily widening disbelief of the Commission's work is the avalanche of anti-Warren Report writings and writers. One never reads any rebuttal. It's all one-sided, and with no counter-force the average European, due his heritage of plot and counter-plot, thoroughly believes the worst of Machievilli.

Suggestion: That a panel of distinguished lawyers, probably 1 three or four, write and sign a defense of the Warren Report. Louis Nizer who was with me in Europe wrote the foreward to the published Warren Report. He has read and studied the entire 26 volumes of testimony. He is able, tough, literate, and would undertake the task of writing the definitive rebuttal. If desperately needs to be done.

Why not explore this with some trusted advisers? Then, if you agree, Nizer and others ought to be unleashed immediately to publish a counter-defense that would mail the detractors and the irresponsible nuts to the wall. The key to the whole assault on the Commission is the so-called "single bullet theory" If this panel of distinguished lawyers could demolish attack on the single bullet theory, the slanderers would be laid to rest.

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The vital point, Mr. President: Unless the Warren Report is validated, and soon, the disbelief will grow and grow -- to what ends, no one can accurately predict.

