

COVINGTON & BURLING

888 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

TELEPHONE (202) 452-6000

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NUMBER

(202) 452-6498

January 11, 1979

HOWARD C. WESTWOOD
JOHN T. SAPIENZA
JAMES H. MCGLOTHLIN
ERNEST W. JENNES
STANLEY L. TEMKO
DON V. HARRIS, JR.
WILLIAM STANLEY, JR.
WEAVER W. DUNNAN
EDWIN M. ZIMMERMAN
JEROME ACKERMAN
HENRY P. SAILER
JOHN H. SCHAFER
ALFRED H. MOSES
JOHN LEMOYNE ELLICOTT
PAUL R. DUKE
PHILIP R. STANSBURY
CHARLES A. MILLER
RICHARD A. BRADY
ROBERT E. O'MALLEY
EUGENE I. LAMBERT
MARK A. WEISS
HARRIS WEINSTEIN
JOHN B. DENNISTON
PETER J. NICKLES
MICHAEL BOUDIN
BINGHAM B. LEVERICH
ALLAN J. TOPOL
VIRGINIA G. WATKIN
RICHARD D. COPAKEN
CHARLES LISTER
PETER D. TROBOFF
WESLEY S. WILLIAMS, JR.
DORIS D. BLAZEK
WILLIAM D. IVERSON
S. WILLIAM LIVINGSTON, JR.
JOHN M. VINE
JOHN T. SMITH II

CHARLES A. HORSKY
W. CROSBY ROPER, JR.
DANIEL M. GRIBBOH
HARRY L. SHNIDERMAN
EDWIN S. COHEN
JAMES C. MCKAY
JOHN W. DOUGLAS
HAMILTON CAROTHERS
J. RANDOLPH WILSON
ROBERTS B. OWEN
EDGAR F. CZARRA, JR.
WILLIAM H. ALLEN
DAVID B. ISBELL
JOHN B. JONES, JR.
H. EDWARD DUNKELBERGER, JR.
BRICE MCADOO CLAGETT
JOHN S. KOCH
PETER BARTON HUTT
HERBERT DYM
JOHN VANDERSTAR
NEWMAN T. HALVORSON, JR.
HARVEY M. APPLEBAUM
MICHAEL S. HORNE
JONATHAN D. BLAKE
CHARLES E. BUFFON
ROBERT N. SAYLER
E. EDWARD BRUCE
DAVID N. BROWN
PAUL J. TAGLIABUE
ANDREW W. SINGER
DAVID H. HICKMAN
RUSSELL H. CARPENTER, JR.
NICHOLAS W. FELS
THEODORE L. GARRETT
DANA T. ACKERLY
COLEMAN S. HICKS
STUART C. STOCK

NEWELL W. ELLISON
JOHN G. LAYLIN
H. THOMAS AUSTERN
FONTAINE C. BRADLEY
EDWARD BURLING, JR.
COUNSEL
—
JOHN SHERMAN COOPER
OF COUNSEL

TWX: 710 822-0005
TELEX: 89-593
CABLE: COVLING

David W. Belin, Esq.
Belin, Harris, Helmick
& Lovrien
2000 Financial Center
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear David:

I have just received your letter of January 3 and agree wholly with your comments. In talking to a few people, I have found no one who gives very much credence to the acoustical evidence furnished after such a long time and with no physical evidence to back it up.

If a fourth shot came from the grassy knoll, it would be directed toward the oncoming car of the President and it would seem likely that one of the cars or some person would have been struck.

I read Mark Lane's testimony a few days ago and I believe that he testified that some school teacher told him she saw some person on the grassy knoll with a weapon but I have not read his testimony in the last few days.

I will get a transcript of the two witnesses' testimony, as well as the Committee Report and, if you want me to, I will send copies of you. I have been asked by three newspaper people to comment on the new testimony, but said I would prefer to wait until I could read the transcript. I did make the statement that all the physical evidence was directed toward Oswald and it was very

David W. Belin
January 11, 1979
Page Three

curious that no physical evidence could be found on the grassy knoll and that no automobile or person was struck, even though the motorcade was approaching the grassy knoll.

I will be looking forward to hearing from you.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

John Sherman Cooper

hb