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May 17, 1965

Mrs. Joseph A. Field, Jr.  
1115 No. Beverly Drive  
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Mrs. Field:

Your letter of May 3rd, 1965, directed to The New School, has been referred to me for reply inasmuch as I am the instructor of the Warren Report course. I shall try to answer your various inquiries, as you have presented them.

The study was made by reading the report, comparing it with the affidavits, depositions and testimony, exhibits, contemporaneous accounts of aspects reported in news media, and by further examining those articles which we viewed as serious attempts to analyse, criticize, or support the report.

Between 10 and 20 people attended each class session. The average seemed to me to be about 12 persons per session. In addition, participants included two guest lecturers, Mr. Leo Sauvage and Mr. Dwight Macdonald.

The "approach" was to present hypotheses and to examine them in light of the available evidence. A discussion method was employed except during the first and last sessions of the class, which were primarily lectures by me. During the remaining sessions, short lectures were used to introduce the material to be discussed. Each member of the class who was doing independent research about the report also presented findings during the relevant sessions. The analysis was not necessarily by chapter since we covered all portions of the report dealing with a theme which we were discussing in any particular class session.

The consensus of the class was not unanimous with respect to each part or thesis being discussed, but was virtually unanimous that the report was not convincing and the final conclusions concerning the assassination were rather unsupported by the evidence and frequently contrary to the evidence. Aside from the consensus, you also request information about "conclusions" of the class. In addition to what I have already set forth, the class generally did not feel it had sufficient information to warrant conclusions concerning the motives of the authors of the report, or concerning alternative hypotheses about the assassination. I suppose one general conclusion was reached to the effect that a complete new investigation would be desirable. Of course, conclusions

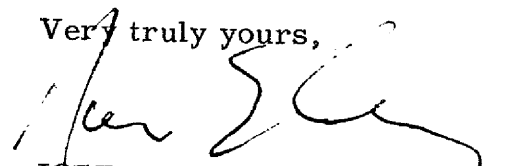
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were also reached concerning each aspect of the report which we studied, which would be too numerous to set forth in this letter.

As to whether or not the course will be repeated at The New School, I am unable to definitely state at this time that there is sufficient demand for such a course. I have been on the faculty for some time and shall be available to present the course again if the demand exists. A number of students have indicated that a separate, second section of the course, dealing with particular aspects in even greater depth, is in order. However, many considerations of the academic institution go into curriculum decisions, and it is not possible to answer your question at this time.

I trust this letter satisfactorily answers your questions.

Very truly yours,



JOSEPH S. LOBENTHAL, JR.

JSL/sm