

17 September 1965

The Director  
Bantam Books  
271 Madison Ave  
New York, N Y

Dear Sir,

The publication of the Bantam edition of the Warren Report was a genuine service to the public in that it made this important document accessible to people of the most modest means. The deep interest of the American public in the immense, incomprehensible tragedy which occurred on November 22, 1963, is obvious. The assassination is commanding the attention also of scholars from many disciplines.

The Warren Report and twenty-six volumes of Hearings and Exhibits constitute an enormous body of data. It is undeniable, however, that those reference works are difficult to master and that their value is greatly impaired by the lack of a subject index, which might serve as a guide to the complex, profuse, and unorganized material. My own frustration and loss of time in using these volumes led me to take notes, which ultimately grew into a detailed comprehensive subject index of more than four hundred listings.

I take the liberty of enclosing an outline of that index, which incorporates but extends substantially beyond the citations in the Report, and includes numerous subjects not treated specifically therein. Several university houses and individual researchers have expressed the view that that index has both commercial and academic value, and would be an important tool for the study now and in the future of this dreadful event in American history.

The desire of Bantam Books to facilitate understanding of the assassination is evident from the publication of "The Witnesses" as well as the Warren Report, although it must be said that the second book inevitably can give only a fractional and arbitrary acquaintance with the testimony. I realize, of course, that Bantam Books are designed for mass circulation and that my subject index has specialized and limited interest. Nevertheless, I hope that you will consider the possibility and the desirability of publication, as a further contribution to knowledge and informed analysis of an unprecedented human and national tragedy.

I should be glad to provide further details, if you wish.

Yours sincerely,

Sylvia Meagher  
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