

10 August 1967

Miss Beverly Brunson
Box 296
Baxter Springs, Kansas 66713

Dear Miss Brunson,

I am delighted to learn from your letter of the 7th that you share my interest in UFOs as well as in the Warren Report. I never had the same sense of total commitment about UFOs as about the Report but in pre-assassination days I used to help a small (now-defunct) group that was strictly scientific and quite sensible in its UFO research. This avocation, along with others (painting, ballet, and scrabble), had to yield after 11/22/63, and I keep only a random eye on the progress of the UFO phenomenon. However, I know the people at NICAP (Major Keyhoe's group) and have taken the liberty of passing on the information in your letter about the flap experienced in your town. NICAP may know about it already but maybe not.

I asked to see your poems because I sometimes write irreverent jingles, mainly to keep my blood pressure down when I am angered by pomposity or the like. That is another discontinued activity but recently I did dash off the enclosed "ode" inspired by the juxtaposition of a TIME Essay on UFOs (conferring a kind of pseudo-respectability on the subject), the fact that Wesley Liebeler removed his beard at the request of the Chief Justice at the outset of the Warren Commission's work (which I learned in reading Katcher's biography of Warren), and the reports from my friends on the West Coast that Liebeler has tried to disparage me as a critic of the WR on the grounds that I read books on flying saucers, which of course he got from Epstein (that fink).

I liked your three poems, and especially the images in the first one, though I don't pretend to understand them any more than I understand my own paintings. The main thing is to derive some pleasure from the words, the rhythm, and the mood. Long ago I was married to a poet (he is dead) who had a large minor talent and a major ability to find incipient poets among his English students...He used to publish their poems, and occasionally his own, and once something of mine, in a tiny campus magazine...But that was long, long ago...

Enclosed are the photographs, as you requested. I still wish you would explain all of this to Mr. Sprague (and I do think he will get in touch with you) --I am so unperceptive about photographic evidence. I do see what you meant about Mrs. Kennedy looking back to her right; but I didn't do well (and I know this will disappoint you) in identifying the differences between the Altgens photo you sent and the standard version. My own study (which I hope you will read when it comes out in November) deals scarcely at all with the photographic evidence; whereas Weisberg and even more so Sprague have specialized in film/photo analysis. I don't mean to seem negative or uninterested--but the plain fact is that of all the evidence in the case, I am weakest in my knowledge and understanding of the films and photos. I am sorry that Turner has not been in touch with you. He, like many of the other critics, has been so mesmerized by the Garrison "investigation" that it appears he can think of nothing else. I have been certain for some months now that Garrison has nothing--at least, nothing really relevant to the assassination--and I have recently had further corroboration of this, not from an anti-Garrison source but from one of his most passionate adherents, who felt this as a terrible blow but who nevertheless continues to hero-worship Garrison. Let's see if Sprague does get in touch, and what he thinks. And many thanks for your delightful letter.

Sincerely yours,