

25 July 1968

Miss Jan Reynolds  
7202 Sachem Road  
Pensacola 32506

Dear Miss Reynolds,

Thank you for your letter of the 17th and for your heartening words about Accessories After the Fact. I appreciate very much the fact that you took the trouble to write and it is gratifying to know that it was Accessories that convinced you that the official account of the Dallas tragedy is false. It was my hope that the book would show conclusively that the Warren Report must be repudiated and withdrawn and that an authentic, impartial investigation must be organized without further loss of time. Unfortunately, the book has had little impact as yet, in terms of creating pressure for such action.

There are various forms of activities open to a college student—first and foremost, to keep the subject alive by discussion, articles and book reviews in campus periodicals, debate, and seeking to introduce the subject into the curriculum, as a special course or as part of the study of contemporary history and political science or law. In some cities, young people and university students have organized committees of inquiry into the assassination, publishing newsletters and sponsoring public lectures or debates and in some cases sponsoring petitions for a new investigation to be sent to Congress. And, of course, individual letters to the legislative and executive branches of the Government do have some influence, especially if they are numerous and frequent.

This is not to say that such attempts to secure public interest and official response are necessarily very promising. The organized groups and committees of inquiry active in quite a few cities (Los Angeles, Seattle, San Diego, San Francisco, and New York) vary in quality and policy; but even the better ones have not achieved any real breakthrough.

I sometimes think that nothing will succeed unless or until some powerful politician takes up this issue, probably less out of commitment to truth or justice than out of ambition and self-interest. Truth for its own sake, and justice as such, appear to arouse only a thunderous indifference in most key personalities and institutions, and in the public at large. Even so, every effort should be made, however narrow the prospect of success.

Again, my warm thanks for your thoughtful letter.

Yours sincerely,

Sylvia Meagher  
302 West 12 Street  
New York, N.Y. 10014