

December 6, 1965

Congressman Gerald Ford
1st and Constitution Ave.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

In the November 27, 1965 issue of Paris Match, there is a story which is headlined: "There Was a Second Shooter Behind The Wall". The story is about the assassination and quotes testimony from the 26 Volumes of the Warren Commission.

On the afternoon of the assassination, I was watching TV and I seem to remember quite a commotion taking place on the grassy knoll. One person on TV said someone threw a gun in a bush; another saw smoke. What I am very surprised at is that now, two years later, a magazine such as Paris Match should be printing this story, use the headline it did, and claim to substantiate it on the basis of testimony taken before the Commission. I never heard any more about this, and had always thought it was mere rumor mongering on live TV.

As a former member of the Warren Commission, I am asking you this question, so that I will not be accused by friends and others of reckless rumor spreading:

Was there anyone behind the wall on the grassy knoll during the assassination?

If there were people behind the wall, surely they would be able to say whether or not there was anyone shooting there. Were any of them called to testify before the Warren Commission?

I would like very much to hear your answer to the above question. I have always thought Paris Match was a very good magazine, and I was shocked to see that sort of sensationalist story.

Respectfully yours,

P.S. I have carefully looked through my volume of the Warren Report and it doesn't seem to ever deal specifically with this point of whether or not there were people behind the wall. I want to apologize in advance for having taken up your time with this matter.