

18 April 1968

Senator Charles Percy
The U.S. Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Percy,

The Los Angeles Free Press of 5 April 1968 reports that you said in a letter dated 3 August 1967 that you were impressed by the fact that Senators Robert and Edward Kennedy have both expressed confidence in the findings of the Warren Commission but that you would not oppose continuing investigative work on the assassination of President Kennedy.

I should like to point out that the Senators Kennedy, while they have expressed confidence in the Warren Report, have at the same time acknowledged that they have not read it and did not intend to do so. Senator Robert Kennedy, while he was Attorney General, wrote to the Chairman of the Warren Commission on 4 August 1964 that he was "personally not aware of the detailed results of the extensive investigation in this matter" (Warren Commission Exhibit No. 3025, Volume XXVI, page 573). There is no indication that the Senator subsequently acquired familiarity with the details of the investigation—a task which I can assure you from personal experience requires intensive and singleminded study of perhaps six months or more.

In any case, the evidence in the assassination must not be judged in the light of Senator Kennedy's acquiescence. Rather, Senator Kennedy should be judged in the light of his acquiescence in evidence which has been thoroughly discredited in the published works of responsible critics such as Leo Sauvage, Edward Jay Epstein, J. D. Thompson, and others—including, I would hope, my own critical study, Subject Index, and articles.

If I may say so, with respect, concern for truth and for justice in this profoundly important and tragic event requires more than passive consent to further investigative work. It seems to me to be the duty of the representatives of the people and the custodians of the reputation, and perhaps the fate, of this country, to demand vigorously and unremittingly that the Administration explain and defend the numerous and pivotal proven fallacies and defects in the Warren Report, and renewed investigation to determine the full truth and to reverse a terrible miscarriage of justice and an appalling falsification of the historical record. The fact that those who are personally bereaved do not choose to take the lead, as one might expect they would wish to do, in no way relieves others of the responsibility to act. I very much hope that you will reconsider your position and work actively for a new investigation of the events of Dallas 1963.

Yours very sincerely,

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