2613 48th Place
Des Moines, Iowa 50310
January 30, 1980

Dear Ms. Sylvia Meagher,

I am presently a graduate student at Drake University, involved in a quantitative research project concerning the House Select Committee on Assassinations findings on the assassination of John F. Kennedy. The project is an outgrowth of a consuming interest during the last three years in the assassination controversy. Recognizing your importance in the field, I am interested in your opinions and reactions to many concerns which I have regarding the Committee report. I earlier sent a questionnaire in care of your publisher, having recieved no reply, I am concerned that perhaps it was not forwarded to you.

The enclosed questionnaire is the data gathering instrument which I have developed. Would you please take a few minutes and respond to those questions you deem relevant? Please feel free to support as many of your views as you wish; none of your responses will be quoted. The potential use of the responses will be writing a paper summarizing the current reactions of experts to the findings of the House Select Committee. In four to six weeks, I would be delighted to send you the raw statistics of the questionnaire if you wish a follow-up on your efforts in helping with the project.

Being a secondary social science teacher in the Des Moines schools, I intend to use the research to enhance the critical thinking of students. My curriculum in the last three years has incorporated a three-week unit covering the assassination controversy. In nine years of teaching, I have never presented a unit which has brandened the minds of young people so extensively.

Thank you for taking your valuable time in responding. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Jane Hildenbrand

1.	The House Select Committee on Assassinations cites one of the main deficiencies
	of the Warren Commission as being the pressure of time under which it operated,
	compromising the work product and therefore, their conclusions. Yet the Committee
	itself appears to have fallen into a similar trap and has stopped short in its
	investigation. Do you agree that the Committee conducted a "full and complete
	investigation of the circumstances surrounding the death of President Kennedy"?

1	2	3	h	<u> </u>
strongly	agree		disagree	strongly
agree				disagree

2. The House Committee agreed with the Warren Commission that C 399 caused both Kennedy's neck wound and all of Connally's wounds. Do you now agree with this single bullet theory?

1	2	3	4	5
strongly	agree		disagree	strongly
agree				disagree

3. Do you agree with the Committee and the Rockefeller Commission that Kennedy's backward head movement at Z 313 was caused by muscular contraction?

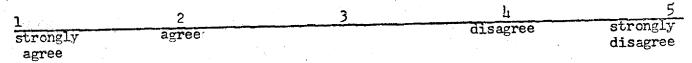
1	2	3	<u>L</u>	<u>!</u>
strongly	agree	<u>.</u>	disagree	strongly
agree			• 1	disagree

^{1.} Report of the Select Committee on Assassinations U.S. House of Representatives
The Final Assassinations Report, Bantam Edition, p. xxx.

- 4. The acoustical evidence, which contained a series of sequences of sound impulses, was based upon a Dallas police dictabelt on Channel One of a Dallas police radio transmission.
 - A. Do you agree that this tape is an authentic recording of the assassination as presented to the House Committee?

•	2		3	4	5
strongly	agree			disagree	strongly disagree
agree		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			41545100

B. After coordinating the Zapruder film with the acoustical evidence, the Committee concluded that the TSBD was the source for all wound-producing shots, ie., impulse patterns two and four. Do you agree that this is an accurate coordination of the two sources of information?



C. All important to the substantiation of the Committee's claims on the firing sequence was the capabilities of Oswald and his rifle. Do you agree with the explanation of the use of the iron sights accounting for the differences of the Committee's 1.6 seconds firing time and the 2.3 seconds findings of the Warren Commission?

.	2	3	4	5
strongly	agree		disagree	strongly disagree
agree				dT3ag1cc

- 5. The surprising new testimony from Jack Ray Tatum suggests that Oswald gave

 Tippit a "coup de grace" with a shot to the head at close range. This is

 supported by the Tippit autopsy report that one of the wounds slanted upwards

 from front to back.
 - A. Do you agree that Tatum's testimony is credible?

1	2	3	<u> </u>	5
strongly	agree		disagree	strongly
agree				disagree

- B. What significance do you place on this new testimony?
- 6. Only the Willis photograph number five was established as having a possible image of a human being in the area of the grassy knoll. The presence of a weapon in the picture was neither confirmed nor denied. The Moorman photograph was too poor in quality for enhancement. The Zapruder frame 41 and the Nix frames were discredited in relation to having a picture of the second gunman. Do you agree with the conclusions of the photographic research of the grassy knoll photographs that were presented to the Committee?

1	2	**	3	4	5
strongly	agree			disagree	strongly
agree					disagree

^{2. &}lt;u>Ibid.</u>, p. 59.

7. The Committee strengthened the case supporting the allegation of Oswald's participation in the attempt on Walker's life, as proof for his capacity for violence. However, the Committee conducted only a "limited investigation" to discover the identity of Oswald's associate(s). Since they could not develop any leads, it was dropped. Do you agree that the passage of time has effectively blocked further exploration into this question?

1	2	3	4	5
strongly	agree		disagree	strongly
agree				disagree

8. If Silvia Odio's story is reliable concerning the visit of "Oswald" and two Anti-Castro Cubans on September 25th, 26th, or 27th of 1963, do you believe the Odio visitor was the real Oswald or an imposter?

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1		, 2		3	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		- 1 .	••	<u>}</u>
Real Osw	ald		An	Imposter		, v. -	Story	Unrelial	o⊥e

- 9. A number of the findings of the Committee concern the activities of Jack Ruby and therefore, have changed the traditional accounting of events surrounding him.
 - A. The Committee contends that Ruby probably did not enter the police station as alleged by the Warren Commission, but rather used the alleyway and stairway.

 Do you agree that this indicates that Jack Ruby had help within the Dallas Police Department to a greater extent than via the ramp?

٦.	2	3	4	5
strongly	agree		disagree	strongly
agree	•	:	· •	disagree

^{3.} Ibid., p. 59.

B. The Committee contends that Seth Kantor was probably not mistaken about seeing Jack Ruby at Parkland Hospital. However, they do not attempt to answer the question of why he was there. Do you agree that Ruby's presence at Parkland on November 22, indicates his involvement in a conspiracy?

1	2	4 5
strongly	agree	disagree strongly
agree		disagree

10. Judge Burt W. Griffin admitted to the Committee that possible underworld connections to the assassination were 'not seriously explored' by the Warren Commission. The Committee has built a circumstantial evidence case of complicity, if not conspiracy in the assassination, drawing connections between Ruby, Oswald, Ferrie, and Marcello. Do you agree that the conspiracy link in the assassination was forged by organized crime?

1.	2	3	4	5
strongly	agree		disagree	strongly
agree				disagree

- 11. A strong question remains about the role that David Ferrie played in the assassination
 - A. If you agree that Ferrie played some role with the conspiracy, do you believe that connection to be:

1	2	3	<u> </u>
Organized	Anti-	Personal	None
Crime	Castro	Association	

^{4.} Ibid., p. 207.

B. Dowyou find the testimony of the "Clinton witnessess" credible?

1	2	3	4	5
strongly	agree		disagree	strongly
agree				disagree

12. Speculation has surrounded the possible involvement of a pro-Castro individual or the Castro government in the assassination. Gilberto Policarpo Lopez, whose movements from Tampa (November 20, 1963) into Mexico (November 23rd) via Laredo, Texas, and on to Havana (November 27th) aboard a plane, being the sole passenger, were deemed as 'suspicious' by the CIA. Incredibly, he was not thoroughly investigated in 1963 and 1964. Do you agree that Lopez, as a pro-Castro individual having connections with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, had a role in the assassination?

1	2		3	<u> </u>	5
strongly agree	agree	. 34 .// .		disagree	strongly disagree

13. Some have contended that Hoover was only interested in following up leads that supported Oswald as the lone assassin. Cases in point: the lack of active pursuit of the Homer S. Eshevarria case after the Secret Service dropped its investigation, nor requesting Oswald's military intelligence file before it was destroyed, and misinformation given concerning the Odio visit. Do you support that connection?

1	2	3	4	5
strongly	agree		disagree	strongly
agree				disagree

^{5.} Ibid., p. 137.

- 1h. The CIA appears to have been more concerned about continuing the mystique of the Agency than assisting the Warren Commission in the search for the truth about the assassination.
 - A. Do you agree with the conclusion reached by the House Committee that the Central Intelligence Agency was "not involved in the assassination" of Kennedy?

1	2		3	4	 5
strongly	agree			disagree	strongly
agree		* .			disagree

B. Do you agree with the statement made by the Committee that the CIA "was deficient in its collection and sharing of information both prior to and subsequent to the assassination"?

1	2	<u>3</u>	ь	5
strongly	agree		disagree	strongly
agree			1	disagree

15. At this point, what do you consider the most pressing problem or question in the determination of the truth about the assassination of John F. Kennedy?

16. Please indicate whether you would like the raw statistics of the responses. YES NO

^{6.} Tbid., p. 288.

^{7.} Ibid., p. 316.