

Saturday noon, 23 October 1971

Dear Ned,

I did not get to see your handwritten letter of the 12th until this morning, as I was out sick with bronchitis and asthma all this past week and your letter was merely held for me at the office. (I came in early today to make a start on catching up with the week's backlog of work.)

In any event, thanks for the hilarious account of your meeting with dear David Belin. The fact that he presented you with a six-pack of Cris cookies endows him with a certain humanity which was previously unsuspected by me and which I presently view with reserve and scepticism.

Perhaps because my scepticism is now deeply entrenched--as I suspect yours will be when you have spent eight years with the Warren Commission and its legacy--I have little hope for Belin's promised letter to Ted Kennedy. But, as you say, it can do no harm. It is, in fact, still another "concession" from Belin to the position of the critics, following on his admission of "minutia errors" and "slight overstatement" to cover what is in fact an endless series of misrepresentations, falsehoods, material omissions, perjuries, and other perversions and deformities to be found in the infamous WR.

As to the role that Belin might have played with regard to the single-bullet theory, I naturally infer that since he told you about it, he is proud of it, and therefore must have served as "devil's advocate" and must still doubt its validity--though inwardly, privately, secretly, and in confidence to a select few. If so and if I do not read too much into your postscript, it throws further ugly light on Belin's arrogant and ignorant claims for the sanctity of the WR, in the Tex. Obs. and in his letters to me.

Well, at least he has not been nominated for the Supreme Court. We must be grateful for small mercies.

Many thanks for writing, and please stay in touch.

Best regards,

Sylvia Meagher
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