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Mr. Richard Gilpin
Liberation
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Dear Mr. Gilpin,

My friend and colleague Thomas Stamm has been good enough to let me see your letter of June 11 and his reply of June 14, 1965. I should like urgently to endorse his position on the need to continue to publish responsible opinion and findings on the assassination of the President. Your problem about raising questions periodically without providing conclusive answers is understandable. It must be admitted that the questions raised in articles and books, despite impeccable credentials in terms of their content and authors, have not succeeded in arousing public opinion nor creating a general demand for the release of withheld evidence and reevaluation of the fanciful official case.

It has been my feeling that a more effective approach might be to expose the defects and fraudulence of the Warren Report and by that means to create a demand for a new investigation based on the premise that the guilty persons have not been identified, or that not all the guilty have been identified. I have therefore concentrated for the last seven months on a comparative study of the Warren Report in relation to the raw material--the testimony and documents--on which it is purportedly based, that is, the 26 volumes of Hearings and Exhibits.

Despite the fact that I began this study with considerable scepticism of the probity of the Warren Commission and utter lack of confidence in its conclusions, I experienced a series of shocks as I discovered, one after the other, the most blatant falsifications and misrepresentation of testimony and evidence--and I leave aside distortions and omission of vital information. To use the simplest possible language, the Warren Report is stuffed with lies and falsification of the facts published by the Warren Commission itself in the Hearings and Exhibits.

Since this is an extremely serious charge, I would like to document it with a few examples.

(1) The Warren Report asserts that Captain Westbrook of the Dallas Police found the gray zipper jacket discarded by Tippit's killer. Captain Westbrook himself testified that he did not find the jacket but that he was present when it was discovered by another policeman whom he was unable to identify. The police radio log indicates that he was not even present, as he claimed, when the jacket was found; according to the radio log, Westbrook first heard that the jacket had been discarded 14 minutes after the unidentified police officer reported on the police radio that he had found the jacket. (References: Warren Report page 175; Volume VII pages 115-117; Volume VII pages 30-33; Commission Exhibit 1974)

(2) The Warren Report asserts that the rifle found in the Depository was the only rifle of its type bearing the serial number G2766. An FBI report to the Warren Commission states that in the 1930s Mussolini ordered all arms factories to manufacture the Mannlicher-Carcano rifle and that since many concerns were producing the same weapon, the same serial number appears on weapons made by more than one concern. (References: Warren Report pages 119 and 554; Commission Exhibit 2562)

(3) The Warren Report asserts that the rifle ammunition was recent and accurate and is manufactured currently by the Western Cartridge Company of East Alton, Illinois. A report of an FBI interview with an official of the Company indicates that he stated that the ammunition in question was manufactured for the Italian Government during World War II. (References: Warren Report page 646; Commission Exhibit 2694 page 12) I have written to the Western Cartridge Company personally and received replies corroborating that manufacture of the ammunition ceased shortly after World War II on completion of a government contract and that "the reliability of such ammunition would be questionable today."

(4) The Warren Report asserts that the evidence all indicated that the stretcher bullet could have caused all of Governor Connally's wounds. Three medical witnesses testified that it could not have caused all his wounds. (References: Warren Report page 95; IV page 109, 113-114; II pages 374-376, 382.)

(5) The Warren Report asserts that three doctors testified that a single bullet had caused all of the Governor's wounds, citing testimony given in March 1964. One of the three doctors clearly retracted his opinion when he testified again in April. (References: Warren Report page 95; IV page 109)

There are many other such instances of flagrant discrepancy between the raw material and the corresponding statements in the Warren Report. Many of the contradictions are difficult to ascribe to carelessness or inadvertence. All of them have the effect of incriminating Oswald or buttressing the case against him, whereas in their original and true version the misrepresented evidence or testimony raise questions about his guilt and arouse suspicion of the falsification of evidence by official agencies.

I have written a 60,000-word manuscript documenting the discrepancies between the Warren Report and the corresponding Hearings and Exhibits, which is now in the hands of an agent. I have no real expectation of finding a publisher. However, if the manuscript could be useful to Liberation in considering its policy on publishing articles on the assassination, or if it could be useful to Mr. Salandria in pursuing his investigations, I would certainly consider making the manuscript available for such purposes.

Like Mr. Starna, I should like very much to see the new photographic material which Mr. Salandria has brought to light, if that is possible, and the article on the Tippit shooting.

Yours sincerely,

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