

16 November 1968

The Chairman
Department of Journalism
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

Dear Sir,

Recently I learned for the first time of the existence of Dean C. Baker's study of the press coverage of the assassination of President Kennedy. The Department was good enough to respond promptly to my request for a copy of the study, and I have now read it with greatest interest. I should like to thank the Department and the University for making this invaluable monograph available.

My interest in Dean Baker's study stems from my work on the Warren Report (a Subject Index to the WR and the Hearings and Exhibits, Scarecrow Press, 1966, now out of print; and Accessories After the Fact, Bobbs-Merrill, 1967) and my continuing research into the assassination. In this respect, I have noted with particular interest a number of items in the Appendix indicating newspaper stories which had never before come to my knowledge nor been mentioned in the literature.

Would it be possible for me to obtain from your microfilm collection xerox copies of particular items? I am especially interested in item 87 on Appendix page 24, and item 27 on Appendix page 30. If it is not possible to provide me with copies of the stories, I would be glad to receive the name and date of the newspapers in which they appeared.

The microfilm collection of newspapers for 22-26 November 1963 is an extremely important research tool. I would be most eager to have access to it and would welcome any information or suggestions which you may be able to offer as to accessibility, in Ann Arbor or any other university or institution.

I hesitated to address this letter to Dean C. Baker, who may no longer be at Ann Arbor, but I wonder if he, or the Department of Journalism, have considered undertaking additional studies of the role of the press and other news media subsequent to the first days after Dallas. That is, studies of press and editorial treatment of the Warren Report upon its publication in September 1964; and reaction to the first wave of critical books, summer of 1966 and the second wave, fall of 1967. An analysis and inventory would constitute a most valuable supplement to the historical record and to further study of the role played by the press in reporting events of high political significance or implication.

With renewed thanks,

Yours very sincerely,

Sylvia Meagher
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