

Department of Journalism

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN • ANN ARBOR • 48104

November 21, 1968

Mrs. Sylvia Meagher
302 West 12th Street
New York, N.Y. 10014

Dear Mrs. Meagher:

Your letter of November 16 to the Chairman has been given to me for reply, and I want to express my appreciation for your interest in my study of the press coverage of President Kennedy's assassination. I take it we share a continuing interest in this event, although I am sorry to say that I have become diverted from any active work on it since leaving for S. Korea in June of 1967 to take up a year's Fulbright lectureship.

You may be interested to know, however, that I continued to have a keen interest in the press in crisis situations, and that I was able to complete a study of the S. Korean press during the period Jan. 21 to late February, after the N. Korean guerrilla raid on Seoul and the seizure of the Pueblo a couple of days later. My only attempt to date at publication of these findings took the form of a long magazine article which was sent to the New Yorker in February, but which did not reach them, owing to faulty Korean mails, until much later, causing them to reject it as out-of-date. I believe it is now at the offices of either Harper's or Atlantic, judging from the last report I had from my son-in-law, who is teaching at W. Point and whom I asked to send it around to various shops after the NY turned it down.

As I am now teaching here only part-time, and have taken on an administrative post in the Literary College, the sort of continuing research you suggest, while terribly intriguing to me, seems to get shunted aside. I had particularly wanted to continue with an analysis of reactions to the Warren Report, and had, indeed, begun to accumulate a library of books, etc., when the opportunity came to go to Korea.

As to your requests, to either obtain copies of certain items, or to have access to the microfilms, I should like to suggest that you could very easily view any or all of the microfilms here in Ann Arbor if that were a feasible procedure for you. Unfortunately, the items were not entered as to newspaper and date in my report, and only my rough notes would provide this information--and as we are shortly to move to new offices, these files are now packed and stored where it would be very difficult to dig out the information. I have the microfilms, however, and would be most happy to let you view them; I cannot send them to you, I am afraid, as they are the property of the University Library. If this seems unfeasible, however, let me know and I'll see what can be done about digging out the information.

The microfilms, consisting of 12 rolls, as I remember, were prepared by the microphoto division of Bell & Howell; they cost us \$125 at the time, but may be less now. I mention this only in the event you decided you might better obtain a set for your own files. At any rate, let me know whether there is anything I can do to assist you.

Sincerely,
Don Baker