

13 March 1967

Mr. Wesley J. Liebeler  
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Los Angeles, California

*Not sent*

My dear Mr. Liebeler,

If I am not misinformed, you have taken to denigrating my criticism of the Warren Report on the irrelevant and specious ground that I allegedly "believe in flying saucers." I have not expressed my views on UFOs (unidentified flying objects) to you or to any of your easily-identified informers on the personal activities or interests of the critics; and I would therefore question your qualifications to present in public or private an accounting of my evaluation of this phenomenon.

However, Representative Gerald Ford has taken a public stand on UFOs, indicating that he regards them as a subject for serious investigation -- "a full Congressional investigation," as he demanded on March 25, 1966 on CBS television. Professor J. Allen Hynek, the astrophysicist who has served as consultant to the U.S. Air Force on UFOs for about 20 years, also has expressed publicly his conviction that the subject is a serious one, meriting scientific inquiry and not cheap wise-cracks (see, for example, Science, October 1966, and The Saturday Evening Post, December 17, 1966). And, as any informed person knows, numerous other responsible scientists, public officials, and commentators have placed similar views on the record.

My own interest in UFOs, which you may as well know since you expound them, derives largely from concern about the official policy of misinforming the public on the subject, impeaching the character of reputable witnesses, and issuing "explanations" of sightings ("marsh gas" etc.) which could satisfy only a village idiot. I am always concerned when the Government practices a policy of deceit and shows contempt for the intelligence and rights of the public. You may note a certain parallelism among my interests, although I scarcely see what relevance the interests of critics in areas other than the Warren Report has to their criticism of the Report. The news that you have contrived to attack my work on the Report by introducing the unrelated problem of UFOs encourages me to conclude that you could not find in that work itself grounds for rebuttal. It is always gratifying to have corroboration of the soundness of one's work.

It does surprise me, I admit, that with the evidence in hand of your colleague Mr. Jenner's abuse of the facts (The Minority of One, March 1967) you nevertheless have the temerity to charge that any critic of the Warren Report lacks credibility.

I look forward with keen attention to your further pronouncements, which no doubt will also interest Representative Ford and other eminent persons who do not share your views on "flying saucers" and who may not appreciate ridicule by implication. I am sending copies of this letter to interested persons, too numerous to list.

Yours sincerely,

Sylvia Meagher  
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