

Sept. 2, 1972

Dear Mr Sprague

The article to which you referred in your letter of Aug 28th appeared in the Sat Eve Post issue of January 14, 1967; it was written by Richard J Whalen. The color reproduction of a frame of the Nix film, to which you referred, extends across the third column of page 22 and across all three columns of page 23, and occupies about half of the total area of both pages. It is indistinct and supports the point I made in reporting on the Zapruder film in 1965, that the Nix film is of poor quality, and of dubious evidentiary value. The caption at the bottom of page 22, column two, reads: "Some witnesses insist they heard firing from the grassy knoll. In the upper left of this picture others see a man aiming a rifle from a car roof just as the shots hit." No reference to picture or caption was made in Whalen's article. I do not anticipate startling discoveries from inspection of the original Nix film. I will undertake, however, to do it objectively and read nothing into or out of the film.

But before I do I must have the material which appeared in Computers and Automation. If Mr Berkeley sent it as he intended, it has not arrived. From him I have received only the Memorandum For Prospective Authors and Political Assassination in the United States, an "inventory" of articles which have appeared in C&A from May 1970 to May 1972. I would like to have them all, of course. But some are urgent, specifically the issues of May and July 1970 for seeing the Nix film, that of Dec 1971 for recasting my letter to Salandria as a ninth anniversary piece, and those of March, April, and May 1972 for possible bearing on that assignment. Can you, as an associate editor, ensure their prompt dispatch if they have not been sent already?

The Committee To Investigate Assassinations, it would appear from your response to my questions, set out to find the "truth" about the assassinations of John F Kennedy, Martin Luther King, and Robert F Kennedy. Why only those three? Why, for example, was Malcolm X excluded?

How does the Committee conceive the "truth"? Is it limited to "evidence"? Does it exclude motivation? Wasn't that the position of the Warren Commission? Isn't motivation for political murder quintessential to its "truth"? What restrains the Committee which has discovered "links at higher levels" and similarities in motives and methods among the three assassinations it is investigating, and a number of whose "individual members have developed political motivation theories," from elaborating a theory of the meaning of these events? What material has the Committee published on motivation for the assassinations? As a member can you ask it to send me this material?

Very truly yours,

Thos Hamm

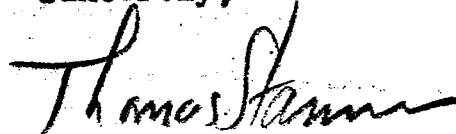
Sept 9, 1972

Dear Mr Berkeley :

It was good of you to send me the May 1970, Dec 1971, and January and August 1972 issues of Computers and Automation. I began reading them immediately.

The ninth anniversary article on the Kennedy assassination is taking shape in my mind. I can encompass evaluation of Salandria's model of the assassination and will begin writing in time to meet the October 2nd deadline. But I have a persistent feeling I should do so only after reading the three pieces by Soviet reporter Mikhail Sagatelian which appeared in the March, April, and May issues of C&A. How can I get them quickly? I should be ever so much obliged if you could send them to me at once.

Sincerely,



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