

TIME

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ROCKEFELLER CENTER
NEW YORK 10020

MARIA LUISA CISNEROS
EDITORIAL OFFICES

June 9, 1969

Dear Mrs. Meagher:

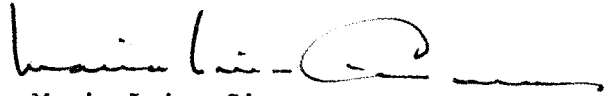
Please accept our apologies for this long delay in our reply to your letter about a story in TIME's February 21 issue. Our editorial mail has been very heavy in recent weeks.

Yes, we did err in stating that the Warren Commission Report included the information that President Kennedy "fell backward because his chauffeur had speeded up the car when the shooting began." This was a theory offered to the Commission to explain the head movement, but it did not appear in the report itself, as you point out, and the head movement could probably be explained as well in medical terms -- that is, as a neurological reaction. In any case, if the President was hit by bullets coming from several directions at once, as some critics of the report argue, the autopsy photographs and X rays would provide appropriate evidence. But according to the two pathologists who examined the photographs and X rays in response to pressure from District Attorney Garrison, they show that the President was shot in the head from behind only. Again, we appreciated your calling our attention to the error.

There is little to be gained, we think, from yet another go-around with you on the subject of TIME's reporting of the Warren Commission. We recall other exchanges of correspondence with you in which you made similar charges about the quality of TIME's coverage. Again, we must emphasize that while the Commission left a number of important questions unanswered, or at least not satisfactorily explained, it is our view that critics of the report themselves have failed to compile convincing evidence that Oswald was not the assassin,

or that if he was involved in the events of November 22,
it was as part of a carefully-executed conspiracy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Maria Luisa Cisneros". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Maria Luisa Cisneros

Mrs. Sylvia Meagher
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MLC:msr