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April 27, 1965

Senator John Sherman Cooper United States Senate Washington, D.C.

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Dear Senator Cooper:

Mr. Edward J. Epstein, a graduate student in the Department of Government at Cornell University, is currently writing his thesis under my supervision. His subject is the Warren Commission.

He will be in Washington May 3rd to 8th, and during that time he will telephone your office to ask if he can have an appointment with you there. I hope that you will be able to give him some time, for he has several questions he would like to ask you. Mr. Epstein has already spoken with Mr. Rankin in New York.

Mr. Epstein's thesis is a scholarly study in political science. Its theme, in general terms, is as follows: the country was faced with a unique and critical situation, and there were few precedents for dealing with it. How, then, did the government set about handling the whole question of the assassination? Mr. Epstein has prepared some queries about the organization and the work of the Commission. He and I would be extremely grateful if you could discuss these questions with him.

Let me add that Mr. Epstein is one of our best students and I am confident of his ability to carry out an objective and informed study. He has read the full Hearings as well as the Report, and in directing his research I have been impressed with his mastery of the record. I commend him to you as someone who has entered this area with an open mind and a scholarly temperament.

Sincerely yours.

Andrew Hacker

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