

Larry Lancaster
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11/29/94

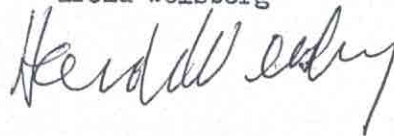
Dear Mr. Lancaster,

Thanks for your thoughtful letter. Our list is enclosed. I write more in fairness to the memory of the man who was, for his day, one of the better Senators, as I then believed. I am, by the way, a Democrat.

It was difficult for me to understand how men I respect, ^{ed/} like Warren and Cooper, could sign that Report. I can't take time for all I learned after writing my first book but I came to understand that while Warren knew what he was doing, no innocence there, he did believe it was in the country's interest and he had been conned by LBJ and intimidated by J. Edgar Hoover. To a lesser degree this is true of all the Members including Cooper. But they were all ^{except Sullivan} too busy to do justice to that responsibility and for all the efforts they made they could not be fully aware of the evidence that, biased as it was, destroyed the conclusions of the Report. Bill Neichter, a Louisville lawyer and a friend, has been trying to improve the Cooper archive. He learned that Cooper took the Commission secrecy so literally he shared nothing with his staff and aside from his many Senate responsibilities spent hours each week going over the enormous load of what was ~~an~~ essentially irrelevant dumped on them by the staff. But as I learned from Russell, Cooper was ^{with} ~~city~~ him in his vigorous opposition to the single bullet theory and refused to sign the Report with that in it. Rankin and Warren worked out what they presented as a compromise that incorporated Russell's and Cooper's objections but it was a con, it was saying the same thing in different words, which neither Russell nor Cooper understood. To a limited degree I go into this in WW IV. I've learned more since then. It was in fairness to Cooper's memory that when Norris' producer phoned I said I'd like people in Kentucky to know a little of the truth. If there had been more time I could have said more. I had what Russell prepared in advance of an executive session he forced by refusing to sign the Report, with Cooper's agreement, and I was prepared to read part of it, along with Cooper's agreement with it.

Wish I had time for more. Thanks and best wishes,

Harold Weisberg



11-22-94

MR. WEISBERG,

I WAS TUNED TO JANE NORRIS'S PROGRAM (WHAS) THIS MORNING WHILE SHE INTERVIEWED YOU ABOUT THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION. I WISH THAT SHE HAD TAKEN MORE TIME ON THE SUBJECT BECAUSE YOU GAVE MORE PERTINENT INFORMATION IN $\frac{1}{2}$ HOUR THAN ANY BODY • I HAVE EVER HEARD DISCUSSING THE ASSASSINATION.

I LIVE IN SOMERSET, KY. AND GREW UP THINKING JOHN SHERMAN COOPER WAS A GREAT MAN. I CHANGED THAT OPINION AFTER THE RELEASE OF THE WARREN REPORT. IN FACT, I WAS ASHAMED OF THE FACT THAT A MAN FROM MY STATE AND MY HOMETOWN COULD HAVE A HAND IN SOMETHING SO OBVIOUSLY FLAWED AS THE WARREN REPORT. YOU HAVE CHANGED MY THINKING SOMEWHAT, ABOUT MR. COOPER WITH THE STATEMENT YOU MADE ABOUT HIM NOT BELIEVING THE SINGLE BULLET THEORY. COULD HE HAVE BEEN COERCED INTO LENDING HIS NAME TO THIS REPORT WITHOUT ACTUALLY KNOWING WHAT WAS IN IT?

I WAS A JUNIOR AT SOMERSET HIGH SCHOOL 31 YEARS AGO TODAY AND REMEMBER VIVIDLY THAT AFTERNOON AND EVENING. IT STARTED ME DOWN THE ROAD OF DOUBT & MISTRUST OF MY GOVERNMENT THAT CONTINUES TO THIS DAY. MARK LANE'S RUSH TO JUDGEMENT WAS THE FIRST BOOK THAT I READ AFTER THE RELEASE OF

THE WARREN REPORT AND IT ASKED
QUESTIONS THAT STILL HAVE NOT BEEN
ANSWERED TO MY SATISFACTION. PERHAPS
SOME OF YOUR MATERIAL WILL BE ABLE TO,
WHICH LEADS ME TO THE REASON FOR
THIS LETTER. WILL YOU BE SO KIND AS
TO SEND ME A LIST & DESCRIPTION OF THE
BOOKS THAT YOU HAVE WRITTEN ON
THIS SUBJECT. MY MAILING ADDRESS IS!

LARRY H. LANCASTER
P.O. BOX 901
SOMERSET, KY
42502-0901

ALSO, IF YOU DON'T MIND TELEPHONE
CALLS TO TALK ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION,
PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR PHONE NUMBER.

THANK YOU
Larry H. Lancaster