HAROLD WEISBERG

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Dear ir. Sloyan,

Although it is not the reason for my writing you, I've been given a copy of your review of the Powner book as it appeared in the Courier Journal and I suggest that if you again review a book on a contriversial subject you do some of you have checking instead of taking the author's word, especially when a little bit of thinking could have suggested that the book had a pet formula, and a few phone calls might have directed you to specific checks to make. But that wait for about six months and they you'll be able to decided for yourself whether you frusted those who ought not be given trust automatocally because, your words, publisher can thist facts to suit their book as well as authors.

What you refer to the Warren Commission "compromise" is not at all what Bussell and Comper wanted and accepted. It is fancy words to say the same thing as they objected to. Hore, the supposed to nscript of the supposed executive session was not made and the record for Whistory that Russell told me he intended making was wiped out in advance.

Until his dying day Rissell encouraged me to disprove the Report. He, not I, was the first objector to the single-bullet basis of the entire report. (A slick con job in POsner's book.) The recent stories from the LBJ phone transcripts are not inaccurate in their reference to LBJ's line about 40,000,000 dying, which I published in 1967, but that was not what Russell belief was the reason for Johnson putting him on the Commission almost as soon as Russell believed he had talked him out of it. Russell was quite explicit in telling me he believed that LBJ wanted to keep him from leading the anti-civil rights fight in the Senate.

The story that the Kennedy family permitted Harren alone to view any of the autospy film also is fiction. Bobby put no restriction on any hing the Commission decised it needed. It was the Commission that chose not to make any real use of that film. I am confident that if it had the Geport Fissued they'd have had real trouble with.

Sorry my typing can't be any better.

Hairldwich

Harold Weisberg