

# TIME

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EDITORIAL OFFICES

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Dear Mr. Bruce:

There is a massive structure of evidence in the Warren Commission report to support the lone assassin theory: ballistics evidence, autopsy evidence, photographic evidence, evidence compiled in reconstructing exactly the sequence of events, using the Zapruder film as a guide. On the other hand, there is no significant evidence to support a multiple assassin-conspiracy theory. When you consider the bewildering barrage of doubts raised by critics of the report, you also have to conclude that the most compelling refutation is that any evidence-tampering of the sort they suspect would have required a conspiratorial web so vast and complex as to be unmanageable. Not just the FBI and the Secret Service would be implicated, but hospital doctors and nurses in Dallas, Dallas police, autopsy surgeons, the laboratory men who developed the X-rays and photographs and of course, the Kennedy family itself. Our point is that the Warren Commission report was not a perfect document, but many of the complaints against it concern the inevitable flaws that accompany any investigative effort: contradictions, loopholes, gaps of fact and, especially in the case of such a shattering episode as an assassination, some confusion and forgetfulness on the part of shocked witnesses.

It was useful to have your comments and we thank you for your letter.

Sincerely,

  
Isabel Kouri

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IK:rp