

1735 Highland Place, Apt. 25
Berkeley, Calif. 94709
September 26, 1970

Sen. George Murphy
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Murphy:

The San Francisco Chronicle, in reporting your speech of September 15 in Fremont, noted that you doubted that the assassination of President Kennedy was the act of just one man. I am pleased that you are keeping an open mind on this still-important subject.

In my own study of the assassination, I have found much evidence of a conspiracy. I hope you will agree that as much of the evidence in the possession of the Federal Government should be made public as is possible. Perhaps you could help me obtain some material which relates directly to the question of Oswald's motivation.

I am referring to the testimony of Edward Scannell Butler before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on November 24, 1963. Mr. Butler debated Oswald on the radio in New Orleans a couple of months before the assassination. Senator Dodd has written that the record of that debate "completely demolishes the wide-spread notion that Oswald was a simple crack-pot who acted without any understandable motivation." Mr. Butler was at the time active in IrCA (the Information Council of the Americas), an anti-Communist organization in New Orleans, and is a specialist in exposing and combating Communist agitprop techniques.

In October 1967, I was told that Mr. Butler's testimony, which he gave at the request of Senator Dodd, had not yet been released. I would greatly appreciate any assistance you could provide in making this material available to me and to others who share your suspicions about this case.

Sincerely yours,

Paul L. Hoch

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND PUBLIC WELFARE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

October 15, 1970

Mr. Paul L. Hoch
1735 Highland Place, Apt. #25
Berkeley, California 94709

Dear Mr. Hoch:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning my statements on the assassinations of John and Robert Kennedy.

Although many persons in and out of public life have refused to acknowledge their own personal misgivings about the answers offered to the many questions prompted by these tragedies, I have harbored serious doubts on these subjects for quite some time.

Unfortunately, the news media's coverage of my statements has tended to give the impression that they were made for some sort of shock effect from which I might derive political mileage. Even though this implied accusation is not true, such publicity has made it very difficult for any meaningful discussion of this matter in a campaign context.

Messages such as yours have, nonetheless, convinced me that the American public -- including individuals of every political persuasion -- will not accept findings of fact which seem to contradict both elementary reason and common sense. I am confident that with the help of all concerned citizens, we will be able to ascertain the truth of these matters.

Sincerely,

George Murphy
George Murphy

GM:lj

12 San Francisco Chronicle ★ Thurs., Sept. 17, 1970

Assassination, Space

Wide-Ranging Murphy Speech

Senator George Murphy told a Bay Area audience Tuesday he doubted whether Sirhan B. Sirhan acted alone in the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy—just as he doubted the killing of President Kennedy was a solitary act.

"I am not certain this young man (Sirhan) did it by himself," Murphy told a Republican luncheon audience in Fremont. "Neither are you. Neither are the courts."

The Republican Senator mentioned the assassinations during a course of listing a few of the things that troubled him in America. He said he found far more that is good than harmful in the country.

SOMEBODY

As for the slayings, Murphy said, "A President and his brother are assassinated — for what reason and by whose order I'm still not certain . . . Somebody, I think, instigated them."

In San Jose yesterday, Murphy said the scientific teams assembled for the na-

tion's defense and space needs should be preserved as the nation heads toward a peacetime economy.

"I am certain that with the help of these brilliant men and women we can find new methods of building up low-income housing for our poor," Murphy said.

SYSTEM

"I have complete confidence that the group which built a system for recirculating men's waste in space can easily solve the vexing and serious problem of waste disposal on earth."

He said that space scientists could find ways to stop crime in the cities and to solve traffic jams.

Murphy also spoke briefly last night at the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce sports banquet at the Cow Palace.