

CBS NEWS

A Division of CBS Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Robert Chandler, Vice President, Administration
and Assistant to the President

Dear Mr. Lesar:

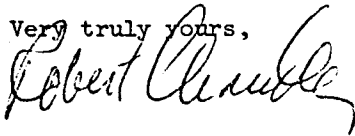
December 15, 1975

This is in response to your letter of November 22, on behalf of Harold Weisberg, demanding "fairness time" to respond to the November 23 appearance of David Belin on FACE THE NATION. In addition you refer to the series of CBS News special broadcasts entitled "The American Assassins" and you request time to respond "to the views presented on the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr."

Mr. Belin, who was Assistant Counsel to the Warren Commission, has recently called for a new investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy. His appearance on FACE THE NATION was based on the newsworthiness of his views. Moreover, with respect to your request for time to respond to the CBS News reports on the assassinations of President Kennedy and Dr. King, we believe that we have acted fairly and responsibly in presenting contrasting views on these matters. Indeed, we note that Mr. Weisberg rejected CBS News' request for an interview in connection with the report on Dr. King, presently scheduled for broadcast on January 2, 1976. In this connection, I attach an October 17 letter from CBS News Executive Producer Leslie Midgley to Mr. Weisberg regarding your client's refusal to make himself available for an interview.

In sum, we believe that we have acted in a manner consistent with our legal obligations. Accordingly, we respectfully reject your request time.

Very truly yours,



James H. Lesar, Esq.
1231 Fourth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024