COVINGTON & BURLING

888 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

TELEPHONE (202) 452-6000 WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NUMBER

(202) 452-6498

NEWELL W. ELLISON JOHN G. LAYLIN H. THOMAS AUSTERN FONTAINE C. BRADLEY EDWARD BURLING, JR. COUNSEL

JOHN SHERMAN COOPER OF COUNSEL

January 11, 1979

David W. Belin, Esq. Belin, Harris, Helmick & Lovrien 2000 Financial Center Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear David:

I have just received your letter of January 3 and agree wholly with your comments. In talking to a few people, I have found no one who gives very much credence to the acoustical evidence furnished after such a long time and with no physical evidence to back it up.

If a fourth shot came from the grassy knoll, it would be directed toward the oncoming car of the President and it would seem likely that one of the cars or some person would have been struck.

I read Mark Lane's testimony a few days ago and I believe that he testified that some school teacher told him she saw some person on the grassy knoll with a weapon but I have not read his testimony in the last few days.

I will get a transcript of the two witnesses' testimony, as well as the Committee Report and, if you want me to, I will send copies of you. I have been asked by three newspaper people to comment on the new testimony, but said I would prefer to wait until I could read the transcript. I did make the statement that all the physical evidence was directed toward Oswald and it was very

ER LFER ISES E ELLICOTT SBURY

LEET ENE I, LAMBERT

IS WEISS TEIN

N B. DENNISTON

R. J. NICKLES

MEL BOUDIN

HAM B. LEVERICH

HIMA B. LEVERICH

HIMA G. WATKIN

RICES LISTER

R. G. TROOBOFF

IS D. BWAZEK

LIS M. D. LEVERSON

LLIAM LIVINGSTON, JR.

N. W.NE. S. WILLIAM LIVINGST JOHN M. VINE JOHN T. SMITH II

TTON HUTT DYM DERSTAR HALVORSON, APPLEBAUM I HORNE I D. BLAKE E. BUFFON I SAYLER O BRUCE ROWN BRUGGIOWN
ICHABUE
, SINGER
CKMAN
. CARPENTER, JR.
V. FELS
L. GARRETT David W. Belin January 11, 1979 Page Three

curious that no physical evidence could be found on the grassy knoll and that no automobile or person was struck, even though the motorcade was approaching the grassy knoll.

I will be looking forward to hearing_from_you. With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

John Sherman Cooper

hb