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December 4, 1978

David W. Belin, Esq.

Belin, Harris, Helmick  
& Lovrien  
2000 Financial Center  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear David:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter which I wrote to the Honorable John McCloy, but, as it was a letter of November 20, I have not received an answer from him. His wife has been very ill and I do not know when and if I will hear from him.

Unless he has some suggestions, I would think it would be perfectly proper on your part to write to a number of publishers of paperback books, calling attention to the fact that the Warren Commission's inquiry has caused a new interest because of the facts which came from the Senate Investigations Committee regarding the FBI and CIA and the current investigation conducted by the House Committee. While the House Committee investigation is still going forward, every indication is that it will reach the same result as the Warren Commission. In fact, members have already made such public statements.

I do not know any publishing companies or I would write them myself. If you write such companies and want me to follow up with a letter as a former member of the Commission, I will be happy to do so.

GOVINGTON & BURLING

David W. Belin, Esq.  
December 4, 1978  
Page Two

With best wishes for the Holidays and 1979,

Yours sincerely,

John Sherman Cooper

hb  
Enclosure

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October 10, 1978

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The Honorable John Sherman Cooper  
Covington & Burling  
888 Sixteenth Street N.W.  
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Dear Senator Cooper:

Thank you very much for your September 21 letter. I, too, very much enjoyed seeing you again in Washington. I believe your testimony made a major contribution and, hopefully, the House Assassinations Committee will come up with a thorough objective report.

Your suggestion that my book be printed in paperback is not the first time that suggestion has been made. A number of scholars who have read the book have made the same suggestion and commented that this would result in there being wider dissemination of the book on college campuses, where there is so much misinformation about the tragic assassination of President Kennedy. Unfortunately, when my publisher approached paperback companies about the book being in paperback, he was informed that the paperback people are not interested in something that does not include some kind of a sensational charge along conspiracy lines. In other words, where we seem to be these days is that there is a sort of commercial censorship--if the truth is not sensational, the truth may not get published.

From a personal pecuniary standpoint, I would, of course, turn over all paperback royalties to charity as I have the other royalties from the book. Perhaps you have some other sources that might have an interest in paperback publishing, but at least thus far I do not know of any.

If you have any suggestions, I would appreciate your giving me a call. In the meantime, my very best personal regards.

Sincerely,

David W. Belin

DWB:cs

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October 18, 1978

David W. Belin, Esq.  
2000 Financial Center  
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Dear David:

I have received your recent letter and I appreciate very much your writing me.

As I wrote you before, I think the appearance before the House Committee was valuable and our testimony was further confirmed by the testimony of Richard Helms.

I would not give up the idea of having your book printed as a paperback book. I think you could add a short sequel, of whatever length you desire, explaining the information which was discovered by the Senate Intelligence Committee and I assume has been developed by the House Committee before which we appeared.

It is a shock to think that a publishing company of quality will not take a book like yours because it is not sensational.

I think you might get around this, and without resorting to sensationalism, by adding at some point the testimony of those who have been writing books and sensational stories, wholly without merit, and answer them from the record of the Commission, and I believe there will be further material from the investigation of the House Committee. For example, Mark Lane has made his living from the assassination and his sworn testimony before the Commission had no information. He has deluded thousands of people, including college students, since the death of President Kennedy. I would write to John

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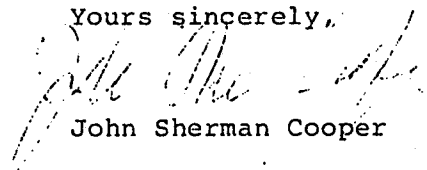
David W. Belin, Esq.  
October 18, 1978  
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McCloy about this because he must know officials in publishing firms in New York City and I think he would like to be of help.

I think also there could be foundations or associations in the United States who would be willing to advance funds. Even if you could just get your book in the important libraries throughout the United States it will be a record which will be valuable for the future.

Again, with thanks and best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

  
John Sherman Cooper

*I will continue to  
work with you*