

Bob Cutler
Box 1465
Manchester, Mass. 01944

2/15/77

Dear Bob,

If you were not so fine a man personally I'd not take time to respond to your letter of the 13th because you persist in madness.

Repeating the irrational attack on George Lardner is about as much as you could do to discourage continuation of the House committee.

I have known George for about a decade, a long time characterized by frequent disagreements. By accepted standards he is a better than average reporter. Within this experience I have known him to spend two of his days off preparing a story and fighting with his desk to get it published. And with all the reporters in Washington I know of no other one who wrote any story on my spectro suit. George spent hours checking details with me by phone and then checked his story. Few reporters do this, fewer on their week-ends when they have families. He and his paper disagree with my views. So how does that distinguish them from most of the press?

You do everything except state that he killed Ferrie. This is insane. You are long on emotion and conjecture and short on fact. The actuality is that Garrison's people had Ferrie under constant surveillance. If there had been any possible question do you suppose that Garrison would not have made at least some inquiry? Garrison's own explanation to me and others at the Century Plaza in L.A. 11/67 is that Ferrie did himself in with an O.D. of proloid, self-prescribed, and that Chetta had no reason to check for residues in the autopsy. Chetta's competence and judgement are still another matter. But I'm telling you that neither Jim nor Ivo nor anyone else down there has any questions along the line of your conjecture, a completely motiveless conjecture. And you send it to people who know Lardner well. This is stupid in addition to ~~being~~ being irrational.

Addressed to me, "...and far wilder than that is the fact that this same reporter could give the impression in a news story that you of all people in the world felt the Select Committee was not all that 'good'..." The story was accurate. Your reference to it is not. I said they were terrible, didn't know what they were doing and ~~that~~ didn't even know how to. And that like the Warren Commission and others began with a prejudgement.

I have had dealings with these people, going back to October with the committee and to 1975 with the Members' staffs. I know some to be liars and crooks and to be for all practical purposes functionaries of the executive agencies. I know of repeated unethical efforts. All the leaks have been fakes or ripoffs, general entirely out of context. And worst of all I did anticipate all these incredible mistakes, did warn them against them and did outline how to avoid them and earn support and respect. These proposals were agreed to and then ignored. You have to be blind not to see the results. Sprague could not care less for niceties, proprieties and legalities. He is an authoritarian. Gonzalez could not be more irresponsible. The individual Members have to know better or are incompetent. With the backs this is certain. I know who informed them and I personally wrote Fauntroy without response. This is the same Fauntroy who would not respond to my repeated efforts, in person and through others, to talk to him when King was killed.

For me the choice is simple: which is worse, this committee continuing or not. I'd rather not. The last thing I want is another dubious inquest. I'm now opposed to their being continued. If they are the chances of establishing truth or getting a real investigation will be even less and their propaganda will have to be undone. Too much.

On the tie: I'm disappointed you thought I would let it rest there. I have been after it. Maybe I'll get it in time. But if there were fewer insane ventures like the one you've embarked on I might have more time for what might do some good. And stay away from King you don't know enough. Listen to me in your own interest. I will not continue taking time like this. I can't. I don't have it. Sincerely,

CUTLER DESIGNS

BOX 1465, MANCHESTER, MASS. 01944

R. B. CUTLER, Architect

(617) Tel. 526-1521
Hm 927-0064

M E S S A G E

R E P L Y

TO Harold Weisberg

Route 8

Frederick MD 21701

DATE

DATE II/13/77

HW: ... it would appear that I goofed again that you never rec'd the pictures I had in mind .. p 340 Post Mortem merely tells me you looked at them and not that you ever rec'd any copies .. the back and front of the tie ... do you think if I wrote in to the Archives they would be willing to supply copies now .. hasn't there been so much released by now that perhaps I might have a chance .. I guess that's dumb so forget it ..

enclosed Exhibit A is a revised copy of my original to the Rules Committee ... I find it much wilder that a reporter can change the coroner's time of death as is evident from the greened notation ... and far wilder than that is the fact that this same reporter could give the impression in a news-story that you of all people in the world felt the Select Committee was not all that 'good' .. that is not a good word but not having seen the article in question it will have to be good enough for now

enclosed Exhibit B is the revision of the original drawing sent to Enquirer ... enclosed Exhibit C is the beginnings of trying to pin down the flightpath of the bullet which killed Dr King .. to me it's helpful but to many it's simply too detailed and confusing ..

I still think the picture of the tie with no damage but the nick is great and somehow should be wrested from the Archives .. cheerio

SIGNED

SIGNED

FORM AVAILABLE FROM GRAYBAR CO., INC.
882 THIRD AVE., B'KLYN., N. Y. 11232

THIS COPY FOR PERSON ADDRESSED