

RFD # 1
Ellsworth, Me. 04605
Dec. 1, 1976

House Select Committee on Assassinations
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Members,

At long last a committee exists with the power to right the wrongs perpetrated by the Warren Commission! As a citizen extremely concerned about justice and integrity in government, I sincerely urge you to use this opportunity for the pursuit of the truth, wherever it may lead. We are entitled to no less than that.

In examining the John Kennedy assassination, please do not be misled along the garden pathways of what foreign power Oswald was involved with, whom he might have worked for, and what his motives were for the assassination. One basic, fundamental question must be answered before you delve into that -- did Lee Oswald in fact commit the crime or crimes attributed to him? That is what you must find out to the best of your ability. The case looked very pat, until the evidence was carefully examined. This you must do. Start at the beginning with the known facts and work from there. You cannot assume that Oswald was guilty and go from that premise, which is what the Warren Commission did with their disastrous results.

Hopefully you will utilize the people who have done much responsible research into the facts of the case. These include Harold Weisberg in Frederick, Maryland, whom the FBI certified in Court knows more about the JFK assassination than anyone in the FBI. What better source of information could you have? He has searched out the Archives in a constant battle for the truth, though frustrated by the government which is determined to prevent its escape. A host of others would be helpful - Sylvia Meagher, Mark Lane, Howard Roffman, Robert Groden, Penn Jones, Josiah Thompson, George O'Toole, etc.

To seek the answers, one must have the facts. All the classified documents relating to Oswald and his associates in any way must be examined. The information that was locked away must be evaluated. The facts that the government has hidden, such as spectrographic analyses of the bullet fragments, must be uncovered. Witnesses who were never heard must be sought out. These include Carolyn Arnold, who said she believed she saw Oswald on the first floor at a time when a gunman had already been seen on the sixth, and Admiral Burkley, the only medical person known to have been with the President from Dallas through the autopsy, and who, on JFK's death certificate, placed the notoriously movable "neck" wound (and I now quote from the death certificate) "in the posterior back at about the level of the third thoracic vertebra". Other witnesses, too numerous to mention here, must be heard from while there is still time.

Marina Oswald should be given immediate citizenship and immunity from prosecution. Since she still is not a citizen, she is subject to deportation and perhaps intimidation in regard to her testimony. In her appearances before the Warren Commission, she was hardly consistent or believable and she did mention not wanting to be practically an agent in order to stay in this country. Other witnesses also testified that their statements had been altered, mostly, it seems, in the favor of the official theory of Oswald's guilt.

Many leads that were not followed up must now be trailed. Who was the person impersonating Oswald and why? This most curious set of circumstances was overlooked completely. "Oswald" was seen in many places he couldn't have been, making sure he was remembered. Why? Who were the people in the railroad yards and the TSBD who identified themselves as Secret Service agents when there were none in the area, since they all went to the hospital and didn't get back for 25 minutes or so? The most sinister implications are present here and the truth must be ascertained.

In the Altgens photo, is the man in the doorway Lee Oswald? You could have photoanalysis done to answer the question once and for all. Lovelady claimed it was he, but the shirt simply does not match either of the two descriptions given of the one he wore that day, while it looks remarkably like the one Oswald was arrested in. That one picture, if analyzed, might answer the whole question of Oswald's guilt. Is it not worth the effort?

The time is short - many key witnesses are already dead. Let us not delay any longer in finding out the truth. Political considerations should be immaterial in the quest for the answers. The stakes are too high. Our whole society is pervaded by corruption and had become somewhat jaded. If we are to have a decent society and if we are truly a free nation, then we must face facts and deal with them, no matter how embarrassing or unpleasant they may be. How else do you prepare for a better future - and a realistic one? It is now in your hands. Don't fail in your effort, and, what would be worse, don't give us another whitewash. Give us the truth, insofar as you are able.

Sincerely,

Annex Gavett

Copy of letter to HSC on Annex.

*Copies to you, Congresswoman Cheney
Senator Muskie*