

Dear Mr. Latta,

3/9/75

Reasonable people can't disagree with what you say of Belin. But reasonable people won't have a chance to hear it, as they didn't. Most places about the Rockefeller commission's members. I tried to get the press interested.

The papers I get didn't carry the stories you sent as part of your letter. If you can spare me a copy of each for separate filing I'd appreciate it.

In fact the more conservative papers often carry stories not in those generally considered "liberal."

Your analysis of Belin's state of mind is good. I'd add to it the probability that this is the only way he can reconcile with his rightwing beliefs. The rational part of his mind rejects otherwise.

What he says means he never really knew what he was talking about. Not even so short a period after his book that is supposed to be the result of so much heard and diligent work. He is in case after case not even consistent with his own Commission's evidence.

And to say that others haven't spent the time going over that evidence is just ridiculousness. I've probably spent more time than all counsel put together. This alone speaks much of his rationality if not also his integrity.

Thanks and best,

Dear Mr Weisberg: I have been watching the unfolding of the published activities of the Presidential and Congressional committees organized to investigate the nation's espionage apparatus. I have been wondering as I sit here contemplating and studying the picture of Mr David Belin which appeared in our local newspaper (The Arizona Republic, 1/12/75, pge A-14, Associated Press credit) and compare it with Mr Belin's most recent statement regarding the Kennedy assassination in an interview published locally in the same newspaper (The Arizona Republic, 3/1/75, pge A-27, United Press International credit), if an important facet of the personal character of this former counsel for the Warren Commission has not been overlooked.

In the latter interview Mr Belin is reported as stating "to reach the conclusion that Oswald alone killed Kennedy, one has to work backward from the murder of Officer J D Tippit after the assassination."

Since, according to at least one on-the-spot investigator whose book I no longer have in my library, the murder of Officer Tippit was linked to Oswald only by the Dallas Police Department on undisclosed testimony that was strongly and directly contradicted by several eyewitnesses closest to the scene of the incident, the evidential basis for the police accusation was highly doubtful. Perhaps you have later and better information on this ?

It reasonably appears from his own statement that Mr Belin "investigates" by first accepting a doubtful conclusion, then works backward to find evidence which supports his initial conclusion, disregarding bits of real evidence along the way which he cannot reconcile to the conclusion he seeks to establish.

I am under the impression this is the manner in which many of our best mystery novels are written, such as the Perry Mason series, but is hardly the method by which murder investigations should be conducted.

I am further wondering as I sit here, if Mr David Belin with his "weak" face (if the local newspaper portrait is a reasonable facsimile) has not inadvertently revealed himself as an extreme schizophrenic of long standing, i.e., a victim of that egoistic mental condition (not insanity) in which the person afflicted lives perpetually only half in the real world of which he is part, and the other half withdrawn into a dream world of his own making where everything he wants to be true is ipso facto the truth.

To such an egoistic and sometimes brilliant mind, imbued with the pleasant infallibility of his own dream world, the manufacture of forged "evidence" to fit his own conclusions would only be another step to arriving at TRUTH, and he would remain incapable of understanding or accepting any reasoning or valid evidence pointing to a different conclusion. He would tend instead to become violently angered by any suggestion that his conclusion could possibly be wrong.

Such schizophrenics are frequently capable of arguing brilliantly and convincingly for their train of thought to fill in gaps of tangible evidence, and in the legal profession this could well be a valuable trait. Even the most brilliant criminal lawyers, when faced by evidence contrary to their client's interests, could^{be} (and perhaps are) a bit schizophrenic at times !

Although not a psychiatrist, I have had a close family relationship to a similar but more innocent situation and have followed the advice of a pre-eminent team of medically-trained psychiatrists in another large city, who accurately predicted the

Copies mailed.

JFK killer was alone, prober of CIA affirms

AP - 3/1/75 - Sec A-27
United Press International

WASHINGTON — David Belin, executive director of the Rockefeller commission investigating the Central Intelligence Agency, said Friday that neither the CIA nor anyone else but Lee Harvey Oswald was involved in the assassination of President Kennedy.

Belin, who was a counsel to the Warren commission that investigated the Kennedy murder, called charges that there was more than one assassin were cases of "invisible gunmen shooting invisible bullets."

"There is no hard evidence that has come to my attention that in any way diminishes the veracity of the conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald was the assassin and the sole assassin of President Kennedy," Belin said.

Belin leads the staff of 20 on the commission headed by Vice President Nelson Rockefeller. The panel was appointed by President Ford to investigate charges of illegal domestic spying by the CIA.

Comedian and political activist Dick Gregory met with the commission early this month to present what he called new evidence that there were multiple assassins and that the CIA was involved in Kennedy's death.

Gregory based his contention largely on a copy of an amateur movie taken during the shooting of Kennedy. He said the film proves Kennedy was shot from in front, not from the back by Oswald as concluded by the Warren commission.

"We (the Warren commission) had the original of that film, and it was clearer than Gregory's copy," Belin said. "We made 35 mm slides of

every frame of the movie, and I'm afraid I don't agree with his conclusions."

Belin did criticize the Warren commission for not having obtained the Xrays from Kennedy's autopsy and for not releasing the autopsy report.

"This was the major fault and it would clear up so much of this confusion if it were done," he said. "I wrote Sen. Edward Kennedy in 1973, saying enough time had passed and the Xrays should be released, but I never heard back."

"One of the main problems we had (on the Warren commission) was that we had information a mile wide and an inch deep," he said. "Nowhere in the evidence was there an in-depth analysis of the evidence. Unfortunately, people aren't willing to take time to explore the evidence."

He said to reach the conclusion that Oswald alone killed Kennedy, one has to work backward from the murder of officer J.D. Tippit after the assassination.

"There are a half dozen witnesses who saw Oswald kill Tippit with a gun — the gun that was on him when he was arrested and the gun which was proved to be the murder weapon (in Tippit's death)," Belin said.

"From here all the evidence falls into line — the post office box to which both the Tippit gun and the one that killed Kennedy were mailed to, the eyewitnesses at the Texas School Book Depository, it all falls into place."

"The evidence shows beyond a reasonable doubt that Oswald was the sole assassin."

Warren Commission chosen director of CIA

investigate the Central Intelligence Agency.

As the commission geared up to open its investigation Monday, the sources said Ford had selected David Belin, a 46-year-old Iowa lawyer who was counsel to the 1964 inquiry into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Meanwhile, an FBI spokesman said Saturday night that FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley is concerned that official probing into alleged illegal domestic surveillance by the CIA may go too far and jeopardize the spy agency.

The spokesman said Kelley has "expressed some apprehension that perhaps the inquiry and disclosure about the Central Intelligence Agency would go too far and do harm."

Kelley believes that the commission appointed by Ford "should find out what their (the CIA's) mission is and whether they are fulfilling it, but not go into how they do what they do," the FBI official said.

In another development, the Los Angeles Times reported that CIA Director William E. Colby has told the Justice Department he does not believe sufficient grounds exist for criminal prosecution of CIA officials or personnel involved in the alleged domestic operations.

The newspaper quoted Colby as telling Justice that initial press accounts had "exaggerated the extent of the transgressions" by linking individual wrongdoings inside the United States to extensive CIA files that reportedly contain the names of some 10,000 American citizens.

Sources said Belin would head a staff of investigators, lawyers and others aiding the commission in its probe. The commission is headed by Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller.

Asked about Belin, White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen said he had no announcement to make.

Along with Colby, the CIA commission is expected to call as witnesses Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger and former CIA Director Richard Helms, now



David Belin

ambassador to Iran. Schlesinger also served briefly as CIA director in 1973 before being named to the defense post.

"The staff has got to start Monday with procedural matters like what to do about subpoena powers and per diem," one administration source said. The commission presently does not have the power to issue subpoenas.

The commission is expected to set up offices in the new Executive Office Building at Pennsylvania Avenue and 17th Street, not far from the White House. The location reportedly was recommended by White House Chief of Staff Donald Rumsfeld.

The administration sources said Belin, senior partner since 1966 in the Des Moines, Iowa, law firm of Herrick, Langdon, Belin and Harris, was suggested by the President's staff recruiters, but that Rockefeller had interviewed him and agreed to the appointment.

There is no friction or disagreement between Ford and Rockefeller about who would head the commission staff.

"There's no friction on it. The vice president agreed. The President is not going to stuff it down the vice president's throat," the source said.

Belin, who was chairman of Lawyers for Nixon-Agnew in the 1968 presidential campaign, reportedly will head a staff of about 15, including seven investigators, a legal counsel, a congressional liaison representative, a staff administrator and a press spokesman.

Meanwhile, The London Times has published an article by a Londoner who identifies himself as a former CIA agent and suggests that the agency spies on as many as 100 million Americans.

In a related investigation, Sen. John C. Stennis, D-Miss., said the Armed Services Committee would begin its probe of the CIA on Thursday with testimony from CIA Director Colby.

Stennis said Colby would be followed by former director Helms. The hearing would be open "to the extent possible," the senator said. But he added that "much information" would be considered in closed sessions.

Another CIA investigation is being conducted by a House special subcommittee on intelligence, headed by Lucien N. Nedzi, D-Mich.

ularly our international "intelligence" (read "spy") agencies in all their clandestine activities.

FROM KNOWN FORMER ASSOCIATIONS OF THOSE GIVEN SUPERVISORY DUTIES ON THE THREE COMMITTEES AND THEIR STAFFS, IT APPEARS DUBIOUS AND REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF THESE COMMITTEES ON THE WHOLE ARE IN FACT LEGITIMATE EFFORTS BY HONEST AND COURAGEOUS PUBLIC OFFICIALS TO DEVELOP AND INFORM THE PUBLIC OF ALL THE EVIDENCE OF ILLEGITIMATE CLANDESTINE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATION'S ORGANIZED SECRET "SPY" SYSTEMS, BY DEVELOPING ALL THE EVIDENCE OF SUCH SUSPECTED ACTIVITIES WHEREVER IT MAY LEAD, OR IF INSTEAD THE INVESTIGATIONS ARE TO BE CONDUCTED IN A SUPERFICIAL MANNER AND BECOME MERELY ANOTHER EXERCISE IN POLITICAL "COVER-UP" AKIN TO THE WARREN COMMISSION FIASCO OR THE MORE RECENT NIXON-WATERGATE EVENTS. IT IS ALREADY OBVIOUS THE PUBLIC MUST ACCEPT WITH RESERVATION AND EXTREME CAUTION ANY AND ALL TESTIMONY BY TOP OFFICIALS OF THE INVESTIGATED GOVERNMENT "SPY" AGENCIES WHO, BY THEIR OWN ADMISSION, RESORT FREELY TO DELIBERATE LYING AND/OR PERJURY WHENEVER THEY CONCEIVE SUCH LYING AND/OR PERJURY TO BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THEMSELVES AND THE GOVERNMENT "SPY" AGENCIES THEY REPRESENT !

It is now reasonably certain on the basis of established facts unknown to or not considered by the Warren Commission Report on the assassination of President John F Kennedy, that either or both the CIA and the FBI were actively involved in creating a deliberate "cover-up" of the full story behind that assassination in which publicity-seeking then Congressman Gerald R Ford has claimed active participation. (See "Portrait of the Assassin" ghost-written for then Congressman Ford at government expense. Publ. Simon & Schuster, 1965; Ballantine Books reprint, November, 1966).

In view of the now indicated participation of either or both the CIA and the FBI in the "cover-up" activities surrounding the Warren Commission Report (inclusive of the deliberate alteration and/or forgery of crucial documentary "evidence" on which the Warren Commission Report was based) it is reasonably to be presumed in the absence of conclusive independent evidence to the contrary, that one or both of these government "spy" agencies were in fact deeply involved in the assassination conspiracy itself prior to the event.

ANY OF THE THREE COMMITTEES WHICH IS NOW CONTROLLED BY OR INCLUDES IN SUPERVISORY POSITIONS ANY PERSONS PREVIOUSLY CONNECTED WITH EITHER OF THE SUSPECT GOVERNMENT "SPY" AGENCIES (either by direct employment or by membership on related Congressional committees) WILL HAVE FATALLY POISONED THE CREDIBILITY OF ANY "WHITE WASH" REPORT ON ITS FINDINGS THAT COMMITTEE MAY HEREAFTER SEEK TO FOIST ON THE PUBLIC !

The evidence of a hidden connection of either or both the CIA and the FBI with the "cover-up" attempted by the Warren Commission on the Kennedy assassination, is now so extensive and all pervasive, as to immediately impugn the motives of any of the three investigative committees which now fails to deal openly and exhaustively with the matter of a possible planned conspiracy by and between high government officials and others unknown in which agents of either or both the CIA and the FBI were involved. Any attempt to bypass and ignore this matter can only further erode any remaining confidence of the American people in their form of government and the integrity of those to whom they delegate the authority to run it.

- John H Latta, C.P.A. (Ret.)

Sir: The Rockefeller and the parallel Congressional probes into CIA's "intelligence" activities, give promise of highly sensational disclosures in the months ahead which will literally "blow" President Gerald Ford and Vice-President Nelson Rockefeller into Kingdom Come, to whatever extent these committees rely upon the efforts of Rockefeller's executive director to COVER UP and SUPPRESS presently known and formerly concealed facts surrounding the assassination of President John F Kennedy at Dallas, Texas, in 1963.

Mr David Belin, Rockefeller's chosen executive director for the CIA investigation and a former counsel to the discredited Warren Commission, can only be considered of highly questionable ability and/or integrity, based on an interview by United Press International as published in the Arizona Republic for March 1, 1975 (page A-27).

Two major undisputed facts fully supported by evidence now available, but suppressed or fraudulently "doctored" while Mr David Belin was serving as counsel to the Warren Commission, are:

1. The only bullet entering President Kennedy's body from the rear, and which might have been fired by someone from an upper floor of the Book Depository in Dallas, Texas; located to the right and rear of Kennedy's position; admittedly entered Kennedy's back "below the shoulder blade" and near the spine. When the wound was probed at the hospital, it was found the path of the bullet penetrated only an inch or so into the flesh and was no longer embedded in the wound. The unutilized bullet was later found on the floor next to the area first occupied by the Kennedy stretcher at the hospital, and had obviously fallen out of the wound during movement of the body.

The original diagram prepared by the surgeon at time of his examination of Kennedy's body, clearly indicated a point of entry of the bullet substantially below the position indicated by the diagram illustrated in the Warren Commission Report. The corresponding bullet hole in the back of the shirt worn by President Kennedy when assassinated, exactly confirms the surgeon's original diagram as to the point of actual penetration of the non-fatal bullet. Upon the decision of persons unknown but presumably members of the investigative staff, a FORGED COPY of the surgeon's original diagram was prepared and incorporated into the Warren Commission Report to falsely imply that the point of entry of the non-fatal bullet was aligned with a laceration on the front of Kennedy's throat so that the Report could claim both wounds were made by the same bullet passing entirely through Kennedy's body at the height of the neck "exit" wound.

Clearly the reported findings of the Warren Commission in re the only bullet wound which could have been inflicted by a shot from the Book Depository building, were a deliberately planned fabrication based on FORGED EVIDENCE !

What was David Belin's connection with this FORGED EVIDENCE which is the very cornerstone of the Warren Commission Report that only a lone assassin was involved in the shooting of President Kennedy? Was he directly a party to the forgery itself, or merely a weak personality willing to subscribe to any theories of his associates on the investigative staff, without examination in detail of the evidence to support their opinions? In view of the foregoing FORGED EVIDENCE meeting with David Belin's approval, how competent is he to serve as executive director of the blossoming Rockefeller Commission investigation of the CIA? How much credibility can the public place in any reports of "investigations" made and reported under his supervision?

evidence" only recently discovered as the Associated Press report implied.

When viewed in the uncut strip with all frames in their proper sequence, the film clearly shows Kennedy's head reacting sharply to the left and rear at the moment of the lethal bullet's impact.

THIS IS PROOF BEYOND ANY REASONABLE DOUBT, THAT THE LETHAL BULLET WAS FIRED FROM A POINT TO THE RIGHT AND FRONT OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S VEHICLE, INDICATIVE OF THE POSITION OF THE CONCEALED ASSASSIN(S) FIRING FROM A GROVE OF TREES ON A SMALL HILLOCK OR KNOLL TO THE RIGHT OF THE PROCESSION AND FROM WHICH AREA A SMALL PUFF OF SMOKE WAS SIMULTANEOUSLY OBSERVED BY SEVERAL EYEWITNESSES STANDING OR SEATED NEARBY.

Although the existence of this remarkable film was quickly and widely reported, it is uncertain from the available record that any of the members of the Warren Commission ever viewed or sought to view this film at any time - nor even if they had ever been advised by counsel of its existence.

The 35mm slides cited by Mr David Belin as prepared from the separate frames on this film, are worthless as direct evidence of the direction from which the lethal bullet was fired, since there can be no warranty that the exact sequence of the uncut film has been preserved. It appears upon close examination of the sequence of pictures taken from the slides and shown in Warren Commission Report that two or more frames have been transposed to give a false appearance of forward movement of Kennedy's head at the moment of contact of the lethal bullet to support the "Oswald Theory" of a single lethal shot from the Book Depository to the rear of Kennedy's position. Even if such a slight recoil movement had occurred in fact, it still would not suffice to substantiate the "Oswald Theory" of the assassination in view of the fatal flaws in other areas of the Warren Commission Report.

Together with other facts now known, the two foregoing matters provide strong indication of a DELIBERATE FORGERY OF ALLEGED "EVIDENCE" INCORPORATED INTO THE WARREN COMMISSION REPORT - presumably personally known to and approved by Mr David Belin in his capacity as counsel for the Warren Commission.

IF SO PROVEN, THIS FORGERY OF "EVIDENCE" INDICATES BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT, A WILFUL CONSPIRACY OF CONCEALMENT AND FRAUD UPON THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, EXTENDING NOT ONLY TO THE APPOINTED MEMBERS OF THE WARREN COMMISSION ITSELF, BUT EQUALLY TO ALL KNOWLEDGEABLE MEMBERS OF ITS LEGAL AND INVESTIGATIVE STAFF.

CONSIDERING THE POLITICAL PRESTIGE OF ITS "BLUE RIBBON" GOVERNMENT-CONNECTED MEMBERSHIP, THE CONCEALED INTERESTS WHICH THE WARREN COMMISSION "COVER-UP" SERVED, CAN ONLY INDICATE A WELL-PLANNED CONSPIRACY FOR THE ASSASSINATION OF A PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND REACHING INTO THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

No ordinary Tom, Dick or Harry could possibly have planned and single-handedly carried out this assassination with its pre-planned "cover-up" even unto a pre-selected "fall guy" to divert attention from the real assassin(s) while they made good their escape, only to later be assassinated in turn while in police custody. Only Nixon-oriented criminals in the highest councils of our government, could have had sufficient influence to weave such a curtain of concealment around themselves.

AMONG GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AT THE PINNACLE OF POLITICAL POWER, ONLY THE CIA (and possibly also the FBI) HAD THE KNOWLEDGE, MANPOWER, PHYSICAL EQUIPMENT AND EXPERTISE TO HAVE PLANNED AND EXECUTED THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION AND LATER TO CONCEAL FROM GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATION, THE TESTIMONY OF HUNDREDS OF EYEWITNESSES WHICH WAS THEN KNOWN TO INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATORS AND FREELY AVAILABLE TO THE WARREN COMMISSION AND ITS STAFF IF THEY HAD BUT REQUESTED IT.

did Mr David Belin actually participate ? How many identified eyewitnesses complained to independent investigators of prior attempted intimidation by persons claiming to be CIA or FBI agents to prevent their giving their testimony to the Warren Commission ? Did the investigative staff during Mr David Belin's tenure as counsel for the Warren Commission ever seek to identify the persons reportedly trying to intimidate eyewitnesses to see what, if any, evidence the intimidated witnesses could bring to the investigative staff ? Or was the investigative staff the source of the intimidation to "freeze out" all independent investigators and prevent intelligent challenge to the "cover-up" report the investigative staff intended to prepare ?

Little wonder that President Gerald Ford is suddenly terrified at the thought of the possible public reaction to strong evidence of CIA assassinations abroad - EVEN THOUGH ALREADY WELL KNOWN IN THE COUNTRIES WHERE SUCH ASSASSINATIONS OCCURRED. ONLY THE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES STILL REMAIN IN IGNORANCE OF WHAT THEIR MURDEROUS "INTELLIGENCE" AGENCIES ARE DOING TO DISLIKED POLITICAL LEADERS ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD !

DOES NOT THIS MONSTER IN OUR MIDST - "INTERNATIONAL MURDER, INC." - SUGGEST THE POSSESSION OF SUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE, MANPOWER, PHYSICAL EQUIPMENT AND EXPERTISE TO HAVE PLANNED AND EXECUTED A SIMPLE LITTLE ASSASSINATION IN A COUNTRY WHERE THE CITIZENS BELIEVE FATUOUSLY IN THEIR DIVINE PROTECTION FROM SUCH TRAGEDIES AND STUBBORNLY REFUSE TO BELIEVE THE SAME THING CAN HAPPEN TO THEM ?

Perhaps President Gerald Ford is also concerned that the "deadly parallels" to known CIA political assassinations abroad may reveal "trade secrets" of the CIA related to the John F Kennedy assassination at home, an assassination to which the then Congressman Gerald Ford was such an eager publicity-seeking partner in the cover-up thereof.

With the appointment of an executive officer formerly counsel to the discredited Warren Commission, the Rockefeller Commission appears well prepared to embark on the same "primrose cover-up path" of forgery and suppression of evidence followed by its "blue ribbon" predecessor while hoping, of course, that the magic Rockefeller endorsement will lend credibility their efforts. There can be no other reasonable interpretation of David Belin's appointment.

- John H Latta, C.P.A. (Ret.)

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