

April 20, 1975

Mr Harold Weisberg,  
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Dear Friend: The headline yesterday on the inside page read "CIA probed on possible hiding of data in JFK death." Belin has refused comment on this reversal of his previous stand not to go into the Kennedy assassination itself, so one can only speculate as to what has happened to compel Belin's "about face".

W David Slawson, another former member of the Warren Commission staff seeks to divert attention from the CIA by surmising it was a Castro plot originating in Cuba, a theory which appears highly unlikely in view of the obvious difficulty of smuggling the assassins into Dallas with their highly sophisticated arms and ammunition and then to disappear into thin air the moment their work was accomplished. This would have been even more difficult for Cuban citizens unaccustomed to our ways and probably unable to speak fluent English. If such assassins from Cuba had been imported they would of necessity have had to have cooperation and assistance from the Cuban exile colony in any event, with presumed knowledge of CIA through its contacts.

The risk of detection of the assassins almost vanishes however if, as we suspect, a team of Cuban exiles highly trained and armed by the CIA made the trip from Florida to Dallas - possibly "on their own" without CIA prior knowledge - in revenge for Kennedy's procrastination in executing the orders given him by the CIA which directly led to the collapse of the Bay of Pigs episode.

It is the following attempted "cover up" by forgery and deceit - apparently by Allen Dulles who was the CIA Representative on the Warren Commission - which points the finger of suspicion directly at the CIA of having had prior knowledge and possibly giving approval and limited cooperation to the assassination itself. Why should the CIA have attempted to conceal evidence in an assassination in which it was in no manner involved?

The immediate suspicious and almost perfect cooperation reported on the part of the Dallas Police Department and persons representing themselves to be CIA and/or FBI agents attempting to intimidate eyewitnesses from giving testimony of the events they witnessed; whose testimony for whatever it was worth was never considered by the investigative staff, still lacks adequate explanation.

President Ford's hurried appointment of his "blue ribbon cover up" Commission was obviously an effort to prevent re-opening of the discredited Warren Commission Report and forestall efforts by the Congress to investigate on their own. Fortunately, due to the changed complexion of the present Congress, this has not succeeded and has put Ford's appointee in an almost untenable position. For Rockefeller it is now a "damned if I do" and "damned if I don't" situation, and the real stature of this controversial gentleman will be measured by the extent he now shows independent courage and willingness to disregard Ford's attempted "cover up".

It seems Senator Barry Goldwater, the most influential of the Republican Conservatives, has caught a slight whiff of the way the investigations are tending and seeks to beat a retreat. In an interview published locally on April 17th, he stated he is "considering introduction of a resolution to abandon" the Senate investigation. This can hardly be evidence of great courage and integrity to those who will write his political epitaph a few years hence.

Sincerely,

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Copies mailed.