

Keep this

September 10, 1969

Mr. Herbert N. Jasper
United States Senate
Committee on Labor and Public Welfare
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Jasper:

Many thanks for your letter of September 5. Harold Weisberg recently wrote me of his cordial meeting with you and of your interest in that subject which disturbs us so deeply.

I hope that you do find time to visit his home in Maryland--he and his wife are excellent hosts and his wife is a cook per excellance. Too few people have had the opportunity to examine his research materials and exhibits which relate not only to the assassination of John F. Kennedy, but to the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Senator Robert F. Kennedy, and to other more recent issues of serious national concern.

You are astute in observing that we need some sort of a public champion, but that was not my reason for contacting Senator Mondale. The realities of public life and service in the U.S. Senate for an active Congressman such as Senator Mondale weight heavily against such a possibility. My prime interest and expectation was to be given a chance to inform the Senator on this issue--a necessity for a well-balanced view of the subject given the attitude of the media and the Justice Department. If and when our "housewives underground" succeeds in bringing our many concerns onto the floors of Congress, it will be very important to have as many informed congressmen as possible.

The current irony of our situation is that a great many people have a curiosity or interest in the case, or a vague feeling that the Warren Report is wrong (at least 2/3 according to the Gallup poll), but few have a well-informed view on the subject. It requires extra reading or a detailed and lengthy slide presentation of the type I give to illustrate the more serious problems posed by the assassination and the Warren Report. The majority of people who contact me after having heard me speak, or having heard Harold on the radio, indicate that they were spurred to read books about the FBI, the CIA, the military, or the war in Vietnam in addition to a book or two which is critical of the Warren Report.

In any event, thanks for your interest and concern, and that of Senator Mondale. I hope that you both will keep both Harold's invitation and mine in mind for some future time when you have a few free hours and a bit of curiosity. I think that I can speak for both Harold and myself and say that we are at your disposal.

Best wishes. Please convey my regards to Senator Mondale.

Sincerely,

Gary Richard Schoener

grs cc:hw, grs

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND PUBLIC WELFARE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 5, 1969

Mr. Gary R. Schoener
Box 392 Mayo Hospital
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

Dear Mr. Schoener:

Thank you very much for your letter of August 27th and the arrangements which you made with Mr. Harold Weisberg. He did contact me promptly and we spent several hours together on September 3rd.

You certainly were quite accurate as to how well informed Mr. Weisberg is. It was most valuable to be accompanied by him at the National Archives where I viewed the Zapruder film and slides.

He has also offered to show me appropriate parts of his extensive other materials and exhibits bearing on this issue if I can visit his home in Frederick, Maryland sometime. While I am not in a position to do so in the near future, I have told him that I will keep his offer in mind.

It occurred to me while talking to him that what this important problem needs to dramatize it to the public is a champion who is already prominent in public affairs. That, of course, is what you were probably seeking in Senator Mondale. Unfortunately, I still do not believe that he will find it practicable to take on this issue in the foreseeable future.

Mr. Gary R. Schoener

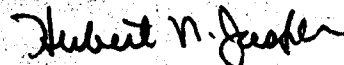
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In pursuing this question with Mr. Weisberg, I asked him about overtures which had been made to such persons as the late Senator Robert Kennedy and the surviving brother of the two Kennedy's, Edward. I also asked him if anyone had attempted to interest Ralph Nader in this subject. I did not think to ask him if any effort had been made to interest former Vice President Humphrey in this subject. Perhaps this possibility is one you could explore if you have not already done so.

I appreciate very much the contributions which you and Mr. Weisberg have made to my understanding of these tragic events. I will certainly be in touch with you if I think there is any constructive action which Senator Mondale or his staff might undertake.

With deep appreciation,

Sincerely,



Herbert N. Jasper
Legislative Counsel to
Senator Walter F. Mondale