

1319 Rutledge Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
February 16, 1971

Dear Sirs:

I am enclosing two copies of a review by John Leonard which appeared in The New York Times on December 1, 1970. To my astonishment I observed that the review from the New York edition eliminated the last paragraph and one-half of Leonard's review, and in doing so, radically altered the import of his views concerning crucial questions which remain concerning the circumstances of President Kennedy's death. The unabridged version of the review appeared in editions of The Times available in Washington, D.C.

I am genuinely curious to know what criteria came into play in determining the censorship of the article in question in certain editions of your newspaper. Do your standards of what is fit to print fluctuate from one edition to another? Or did the same considerations enter into the decision to crop Mr. Leonard's review as those which led your newspaper to refuse to publish the findings of your own intensive investigation into the assassination, because you deemed it to be outside of your realm of responsibility to rekindle public doubts about how and why President Kennedy died?

I would appreciate a clarification from you concerning this matter. In its absence, I will continue to regard all editorial complaints in your newspaper against news blackouts as tawdry hypocrisy.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Levine
Richard Levine