

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701  
1/20/77

Hon. Thomas P. O'Neill, Speaker  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. O'Neill,

Has I anticipated writing you today I'd have preserved better copies of those of my yesterday's letters I enclose. I had not expected to write you further about the many and serious problems on and relating to the select committee on assassinations.

I am aware that reading these will take the time of someone on your staff. I do hope they and you through them realize it also takes much time of me to write them and that when I seek nothing for myself I can have no selfish motive. I am deeply concerned in more ways than I have expressed or are apparent.

That I do have unique credentials in this field has been certified in court by the Department of Justice. Any member of your staff can get a quick opinion from the lawyer who represents me in Freedom of Information matters, Mr. Jim Lesar, Esq., 484-6023 and 223-5587. There are a number of newspaper reporters who knew me and my work and have dealt with and consulted with me over the years who can give you a track record. Of these the one who I believe has spent more time on political assassinations than any other and thus is in a position to evaluate is Martin Waldron of the New York Times, now assigned to its Trenton office. Until these recent developments, which include a manipulation of the Congress through the media and by self-seekers of various kinds Les Whitten regarded me as the pre-eminent expert in the field and told his interns to check with me on all questions of fact, as he himself did. He may say otherwise after the enclosed and earlier similar letters. I can refer you to a number of professional historians.

I enclose this letter so your staff can become aware of the farcicality in the name of the House, the competence and honesty it reflects and I can do precisely this with every leak and release of the executive agencies and the committee.

This is to say that whether or not you credit my word or opinion I see another great tragedy ahead, coming from this committee as now constituted and from the ease with which these involved executive agencies have manipulated it and will continue to as their immediate means of frustrating the needed and honest and competent investigation.

This letter is inspired by the short story in the morning's Post indicating the closeness of the House's deliberations and decision. As a minimum I believe it is necessary for the House to exercise strict control over this committee and its direction if as now constituted it continues this committee.

If you so desire I will make myself available to anyone you designate or to any committee I might be able to help.

Please take me seriously. I am certain you will come to regret it if you do not.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg