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444 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022
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Newsweek

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 24, 1964

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Your letter of June 16 concerning the photograph of Lee Harvey Oswald appearing in our issue of March 2, 1964, has been referred to me.

Since the question of the retouching of this photograph in various publications has been raised as an issue by critics of the investigation, I believe that your inquiry warrants a somewhat more detailed response than you have invited.

I am informed by our editors that the photograph they received was so poor in quality that, as a matter of routine procedure, it was retouched to improve it for reproduction. We are unaware that it was published anywhere without retouching of some kind.

In the retouching at Newsweek, the technician inadvertently brushed out the telescopic sight which -- as we have since had occasion to note -- is visible only so barely in the original photograph that it might well escape any but the closest attention. There was, of course, no intention to alter the substance of the photograph.

If there is any other information I can provide in this connection -- or with respect to any aspect of your work -- please let me know.

Cordially,

Gibson McCabe

Hon. J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
President's Commission On The
Assassination of President Kennedy
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