

The New York Times
Times Square.

June 17, 1964

Dear Mr. Rankin:

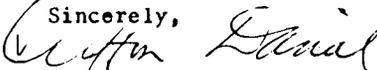
Your letter of June 16 to The New York Times, which I assume was sent to various other publications and news agencies, has come into my hands, and I am able to give you the following reply:

The photograph to which you refer and about which Lyndal L. Shaneyfelt testified before the President's Commission was supplied to The New York Times by the Associated Press, which has stated that it obtained the photograph from the Detroit Free Press and/or the Dallas Morning News.

The New York Times did not retouch the photograph in any way that would change the facts of the photograph--that is to say, it did not alter any essential feature of the photograph. I have our copy in front of us, and the only retouching that has been done is to outline Lee Harvery Oswald's head and right shoulder, to highlight the stock of the gun he is holding, to put a crease in his trousers and tone down somewhat the shadow cast by his figure.

We are enclosing a copy of the print, but to see the points that we have made it would be necessary to examine the original, which we are keeping in our files. It is at your disposal if any members of your Commission wish to see it. We are also enclosing a photocopy of the reverse side of the photograph, which shows the source of the photograph, the caption that was printed with it, the dates on which it was published and so on.

Once more, we express our appreciation for your cooperation with us and we are glad to be able to cooperate on this matter with you.

Sincerely,

Clifton Daniel
Assistant Managing Editor

The Hon. J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
President's Commission
200 Maryland Ave., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

SHANEYFELT EXHIBIT NO. 17