

I believe that the argument against the Dallas Police Department has been stridently overstated. It seems quite obvious that some poor judgment was exercised in certain areas, but to convert this into charges of being part of a conspiracy is, in my opinion, going to unjustified extremes. For that matter, the entire city of Dallas has been badly portrayed and the decent people of that city gratuitously maligned. Witnesses who unavoidably became involved in the case have been called liars-among other things-but have never been given credit for coming forward voluntarily to give whatever information they had to offer. I would like to cast them in a better light. Policemen who performed well have been largely ignored, while others who committed errors in judgment have been thoroughly castigated for their mistake. I would like to show in greater detail the role they played in the investigation, rather than merely the one isolated incident for which they are known. With your permission, I would like to discuss with some of your men the issues in which they were involved.

I have already written to Captain Fritz, Mr. Curry, Sheriff Bill Decker, and District Attorney Wade on this subject. At the time, I did not know who had succeeded Curry as Chief, hence the reason for your letter not being sent with the others. It was not an attempt to go around you; without your cooperation my chances of success are slim. I am disappointed that I have not yet heard from Fritz or Curry.

I am fully aware that I may not be able to obtain the needed amount of cooperation to make this book possible. For that reason, this letter does not constitute a formal request for an interview. The book may never be written. I ask only if you would consider seeing me if I am able to secure the cooperation necessary to do the job properly. Would you please advise me as to how you feel about my intentions and if you would agree to an interview if my plans should materialize ?

Very truly yours,

*Frank E. Chatelanat*

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