

1 November 1967

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 7
Frederick, Md. 21701

Dear Harold,

During the course of our widening disagreement on Garrison, you have often argued that I should suspend judgment until he has his day in court, until the judicial process has had the opportunity to function, and the charges have been tested by cross-examination and fair trial. I will, if need be, produce exact quotations from your letters, but I trust that you will agree that this is an accurate statement of the position you have taken.

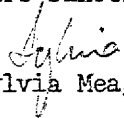
That being so, I was astonished to find in your book, "Oswald in New Orleans," on page 107, the following paragraph:

He attracted the greatest attention to the Trade Mart when he was arrested on March 1, 1967, charged with conspiracy to commit murder in the assassination. He was first publicized in connection with the assassination in Whitewash, where I brought him to light under the alias by which he was known to Dean Adams Andrews.

It is clear that in spite of your stated position on the need to await trial, and in spite of the entitlement of any accused person to the presumption of his innocence, you have already found Clay Shaw guilty of having used the alias Clay Bertrand (or Clem Bertrand) and, implicitly, of participation in the conspiratorial meeting with Ferrie and Oswald to which Perry Russo testified at the preliminary hearing.

Your assertion has no foundation in fact or in law. It is highly prejudicial to the defendant, if and when he comes to trial, and very misleading to the uninformed reader of your book. It is all the more regrettable that the assertion was made by a foremost critic of the Warren Report, who has claimed to speak for justice and truth.

Yours sincerely,


Sylvia Meagher