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July 20, 1972

Dear Sylvia,

Enclosed please find the results, in rough draft form, of much agony, soul searching, and much loss of income and sleep. At times it was almost decided to forget the whole thing and give up this country to the "wolves" but this only led to the idea that what we may have here is simply another example of a fairly common occurrence in human affairs. If we packed up and went somewhere else, as happened with the widow in this case, then we would only find another hydra there.

I suppose it is quixotic to assume any publisher would touch this manuscript -- assuming it has merit -- but then what's the use of keeping this inside? So lets say this is a story that, on it's face, is politically unacceptable and very nearly unbelievable.

When we first got confirmation of what we saw in the films, in interviews of witnesses, it had the effect of restoring our sanity. We we got confirmation from a source who was in daily contact with JFK, and was with him in Dallas, then we knew many others in government knew this story.

The silence from those who knew was understandable for a number of reasons:

- (1) Unambiguous evidence was almost impossible to come by...
- (2) the exposure would touch off a confrontation that would be entirely one sided and...
- (3) result in the collapse of the ~~to~~ government.

It is clear that some of this must be re-edited for publication and some must be re-phrased to avoid legal problems. For this reason, we are anxious for this manuscript to remain tightly held until publication. The charges made here would not be appreciated in some quarters.

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SYLVIA MEAGHER
JULY 20, 1972

Our purpose in choosing you as it's first reader is clear. We respect your work on the case and would value your criticisms.

We hope to benefit by your critique and to make revisions in the final draft incorporating your suggestions and thus come up with something which would stand up when it's presented in final form.

I would only ask that you not show this copy to anyone and upon completion of your critique please return this copy to me together with your marginalia or critique.

We will make revisions and then -- if you wish -- send you the results of our final draft.

Then, I suppose, would be the time to ask your advise regarding reliable publishers and/or agents.

We recognize that some work will still need to be done -- Perry and I are still making revisions (this can go on endlessly) -- but we want you to look at this in it's present form while we go ahead and check citations and make minor revisions here and there.

Some of the photographic exhibits are too costly to duplicate so they are not included with your copy. We trust that this will not seriously hamper your evaluation.

Enclosed please find an exchange between myself and Cyril Wecht which gives us much encouragement. I would hope this could be carried further, but will await your evaluation of the manuscript before I contact him further. I'm glad he didn't dismiss me as a nut. He could easily do this, based on the two page letter I sent.

You will note some citations that read: Interview with John Doe in Individual Rights and National Crises, p. 00. OR INTERVIEW WITH...

Confidentially, this refers to un-beepered taped telephone interviews made by the authors without the consent of the person interviewed. I have the tapes and transcripts of them. We've decided to quote from these, using the subterfuge of citing an unpublished manuscript since the method used to obtain the interviews was illegal.

For this reason and others, this manuscript must not be circulated until legal advice has been obtained. We could be in a lot of trouble if some of these quotes leak out.

For now though, we want to make the manuscript as strong as possible and then worry about editing later. Perry and I will be hanging by our thumbs until we hear from you.

Peace,

FRED