

24 February 1970

Dear Tom,

Kerry Thornley has been in touch with me recently, and I am sure with you and others as well, about his impending, long-delayed trial. Does this mean that Garrison intends to proceed also in your case? And with the so-called perjury prosecution of Shaw? There are now enough victims of Garrison's malice and thirst for the limelight to form a small organization for mutual defense and legal protection--a kind of civil liberties union against false prosecution by the New Orleans DA.

Marguerite Oswald phoned me yesterday, as she does from time to time, with various incoherent news and views. How I do shudder when I hear her voice! This time she was wildly excited by what she seems to regard as a highly sinister development and part of the ubiquitous conspiracy: that her nephew, Eugene Murret, has left the priesthood, married, and on 11/14/69 was seemingly appointed as legal counsel to Governor McKeithan. If this has any connexion with the Dallas assassination or the Garrison Circus, it escapes me. I mention it for any comment you may have.

What did puzzle and disturb me somewhat was Marguerite's statement during the same phonecall that Mary Ferrell told her that she knew me and even described a long conversation or interview she had with me in which some question supposedly came up as to whether or not I was anti-semitic!!! I have never met, spoken to, corresponded with, or had any other direct contact whatever with Mary Ferrell. I know of her only through you and one of two others who have mentioned her work to me. I suggested to Marguerite Oswald that there might have been a misunderstanding and that Mrs. Ferrell might have been referring to, say, Shirley Martin (now Lester) rather than to me. However, Mrs. O. insisted that there was no mistake whatever and that Mrs. Ferrell definitely meant me.

I don't know what to make of this, nor do I particularly care. Mrs. O. says many strange things and it has always turned out to be safe to ignore them. Just the same, I thought I would repeat this to you, for your information.

Please do stay in touch, Tom, and let me know how you are faring.
With fond regards,

As ever,