

20 January 1970

Dear Tom,

(Bethell)

Many thanks for your letter of the 14th and for the clips on poor Judge Haggerty as well as Sciambra's paeon to The Great Garrison. On the latter "belle lettre" I can only say:

Garrison's good intentions  
May merit honorable mention  
But to Sciambra I'd retort  
That the artful Warren Report  
Never had friend in court  
More comforting and helpful than his client  
The green but not-so-jolly Giant.  
  
May good intentions pave his road  
To a well-earned ultimate abode.

About my letter to Scott, I did acknowledge the possibility that he was not aware of the full text, in my last paragraph ("I realize ...that you may have published the incomplete and misleading text...in good faith..." etc.). In fact, I think it highly likely that the whole sorry column was planted on him by the FBI in the first instance. My letter was sent by registered mail and I have a notice of receipt, but as yet no reply from Scott.

My subscription to The Midlothian Mirror has now expired and I do not plan to renew it. However, the last few issues I received carried a huge ad for Forgive My Grief III. I think I will forego ordering a copy, on the theory that it is only a compendium of the editorials and articles that appeared in the MMirror after FMG II and up to recent months. I agree with you that it will probably include the Salandria/Katen ramblings, for which I cannot bring myself to pay good money.

Things are, alas, very quiet, except for the recent press reports of statements by Senator Richard Russell expressing his belief that Oswald had help in planning the assassination but then proceeded to carry it out by himself. No doubt the accomplices in the planning, knowing what a great marksman Oswald was, had every confidence in leaving him to do the job by himself...especially since he had such a miraculous rifle and such supernatural bullets at his disposal. The Russell theory has about the same degree of probability as my theory that Rudolf Nureyev is really Spire Agnew in disguise.

As ever,