

295 Harvard Street  
Cambridge, Mass  
November 23, 1967

Dear Sylvia

Just received a copy of BookWorld today. You're right, it is page 1, and they cut about 1,000 words out. But that is my own fault; one should always cut their own work so others won't have to. When you read it you'll understand what I meant about suffering fatigue on the subject.

The most dreary part has been the Garrison business. I've collected most of his public statements and like an oft forgotten junior Senator, he has a propensity of saying different things to different people, and always claiming he has incontrovertible "proof"-- to be produced at a later date. My article is going, I hope, to show the danger of leaving the assassination issue unresolved: Any halfbaked demagogue--Mark Lane, Mort Sahl, Jim Garrison or who have you--can gain nationwide attention by citing the contradictions in the Warren Report and once they have the spotlight, they can also go on to drop in a few outright and self-serving lies. I hope you'll keep my opinion of Garrison secret for the time being, as I might have to go back to New Orleans and need information from Garrison's office. I have a good deal of respect for Tom Bethel, who I find intelligent and levelheaded, and I ~~have a good deal of respect for~~ think he could write a very good book on both the assassination and Garrison if he wants to.

Do you still have your index of the National Archives? I was curious about the titles of classified reports that Garrison cites on page 72 of his Playboy interview. I suspect he might have distorted some or omitted the word "alleged". Did you check whether they were in fact accurate? Another interesting story in his Playboy interview involved Rose Cheremea (p. 174)? Do you have any idea if it's true? Garrison's secret witness that connects Oswald to the CIA is Donald Norton, who says that he passed money to Oswald in Monterrey, Mexico in September 1962. Can that be possible? Other queries I had about his Playboy interview involved the mention of "Lt. Denek"? (Was that the Dutch sailor mentioned in Atlas?) and his claim the epileptic at Dealy Plaza is definitely involved in the assassination. Finally, he claims a "PE" telephone number found in Oswald's book was dialed by Ruby after the assassination? Is this all bunk or what?

It might interest you to know that Garrison is letting Mark Lane go through all his files, as he has also let Bill Turner, and this in itself is enough to get his case thrown out of court on a technicality. In fact, I suspect Garrison wouldn't mind if his case was disqualified on a technicality--He could then start a publicity crusade and write a book.

Incidentally, I asked my lawyer to write Mark Lane's publisher and inform him that we consider various allegations he has made implying I was his agent to be libelous. But it is impossible to deal with him in any reasonable way and I gather I'll wind up suing him.

I'll be in NY about December 17 for a few weeks and I hope we can get together. Best wishes for your book's deserved success.

Regards,

