

21 April 1967

Mr. Jim Garrison
District Attorney
Parish of Orleans
2700 Tulane Avenue
New Orleans 70119

Dear Mr. Garrison,

Not sent (see revision)

Thank you very much for your letter of the 18th and especially for the handwritten postscript. I am happy to know that the material I have sent from time to time has been useful—I had rather persuaded myself that I was merely contributing to mountains of mail with which you and your staff were being pelted and that perhaps the greatest help might be not to impose on your time at all. A surplus of well-meaning eager helpers could easily get under-foot and in the hair. For that reason, I have repressed the occasional impulse to rush to the airport and fly to New Orleans—an impulse that was almost irresistible when I heard a tape on which you said, "let justice be done, though the heavens fall." You cannot know how much it meant to hear such words, instead of the usual mealy-mouthed doubletalk and self-righteous nonsense which is our daily affliction. And I was certainly delighted to hear you say, on another tape, that Wesley Niebler is a fool. I have always suspected that there is a "superfluous" "e" in his surname.

I am very pleased to learn that my subject Index has been useful. It has gone out of print and another publishing house has expressed interest in the possibility of printing a revised edition. Meanwhile, I learned that Robert Allen and Paul Scott, in their syndicated column, had written a story about a CIA-sponsored index to the Warren Commission records, using a publishing house as a "front," which can well be interpreted as referring to my Index. Should this mischief find its way to you, please be assured that the Index was a completely independent effort—my sentiments toward the CIA are made clear in the chapter "No Conspiracy?" which I sent you, from my forthcoming book.

The question of "page 47" is perplexing! So far as I can tell from the Hearings and Exhibits, Oswald had only two memo books: an address book (CE 18), and a notebook (CE 105) which contains a few phone numbers as well as lists, notes, and sums. As you say, the address book is rich. He might have had a second such book; if so, all of it seems to be suppressed. The lists of still-withheld documents are sometimes misleading, probably because the correlation between Commission documents and Commission exhibits is so unreliable and imprecise. For example, Commission document 1356 is listed as classified by the CIA for reasons of national security, "Secret," subject, "Soviet Hunting Societies." Just the same, it is published, as Commission Exhibit No. 2670. Document 1358, same specifications, is CE 2773. Page 47 of the address book (CE 18) does contain telephone numbers which the FBI in its wisdom might well regard as confidential and affecting national security—to wit, the phone number of the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City! No doubt the FBI is chagrined that they could not keep the assassination itself "confidential."

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In closing, let me reiterate what I said in my telegram of February 22nd, that I am completely at your disposal at any time if I can be of any service, as are my friends and colleagues among the critics, who have been tremendously heartened by your forthrightness, energy, and insistence upon justice.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to me.

Yours very sincerely,

Sylvia Seager
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