

Sylvia Meagher
302 West 12 St
New York 10014

20 September 1971

Mr. David W. Belin
Herrick, Langdon, Belin & Harris
300 Home Federal Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Mr. Belin,

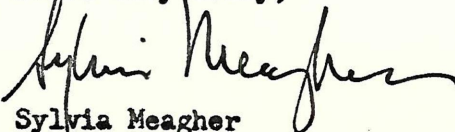
Your letter of September 15, 1971 does not even pretend to respond to the facts and the arguments elucidated in my letter of September 7, 1971. Self-evidently, you are simply unable to refute the facts I have marshalled or the inferences which irresistably follow from these facts.

Whether Oswald was guilty of spitting on the sidewalk or of any more serious infraction of the law is irrelevant to the issue of the integrity, probity, and propriety with which you elicited the sworn testimony of Charles Givens and the manner in which his allegations were reflected in the Warren Report.

Your so-called "expose" is predicated on illogic carried to quintessential heights. Since I have presented prima facie evidence of perjury and collusion surrounding the central element in Givens' deposition of April 1964, namely, the alleged encounter with Oswald on the sixth floor at 11:55 a.m., those portions of his testimony which are designed to forestall any suspicion of misfeasance lack any vestige of force or pertinacity. In any case, collusion between two principals does not depend upon their direct personal contact but can be accomplished through intermediary accomplices. Because these points are both elementary and obvious, I did not spell them out in my preceding letter but replied to your so-called "expose" in general terms, which seem to have eluded you.

After your abdication of your responsibility to reply responsively and specifically both to my article and my letter on Charles Givens, it is unbecoming for you to exclaim that I have not embroiled myself in discussion of the various red herrings with which you stuffed your "reply" to my article. I am not only ready to discuss the Tippit murder but anticipated you by some four years, in my book Accessories After the Fact, pages 253-282. The moment you make a point-by-point genuine reply to my article and my letter, I will cheerfully debate with you the Tippit murder, the physical evidence in the assassination, the Vietnam war, or any other relevant or irrelevant subject you wish to interject. Unless and until you make such a reply, I must conclude that you are simply unable to vindicate your conduct or that of the Commission in the matter of Charles Givens.

Yours very truly,


Sylvia Meagher

cc: The Editor,
The Texas Observer, et al