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Berkeley, Ca. 94704
January 18, 1970

Sylvia Meagher
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NYC 10014

Dear Sylvia,

Thanks for your letter of the 13th, and the enclosures. I agree with your analysis of the palmprint and think it may be very important.

I gather that your conclusion that the FBI was reading Oswald's mail at the point of origin is based on the fact that the contents on his letter to FPCC headquarters is attributed to a Dallas informant. (Accessories, p. 220) I had assumed that it would be technically impossible to keep track of outgoing mail - I have never heard of it being done. Certainly the FBI would have an informant at FPCC headquarters. I think that "Dallas T2" could be a letter or telegram from a New York informant. I can't prove this offhand, but I vaguely recall seeing cases in other CD's where information that is obviously from out of town was attributed to a local informant. Also, I do not recall ever seeing a reference to an out-of-town informant in any CD.

Some of the FBI reports cited in the Paul Scott column are described in CE 834, but (as far as I know) were not given to the Commission. (At least, the entire file was not.) I would be quite surprised if some of the items Scott describes really have been released, since mail interceptions are just the kind of thing the FBI likes to pretend it doesn't do. Quite possibly the FBI gave this column to Scott to keep a little anti-Communist Warren Commission criticism alive. (Perhaps "dissidents" in the FBI?) I'm enclosing a copy of my letter of 12/12/67 to Tom Bethell, concerning Allen and Scott.

I have reread your memo on Oswald's arrest in N.O., and his alleged request to see an FBI agent, and I find very little to disagree with. I suspect that you are basically correct; that the Quigley interview was initiated by Martello or by the FBI, probably as standard procedure. A couple of points: the FBI was notified by the N.O. police the day of the arrest, before Martello's call on the 10th (17H756). Oswald's release "for" Mr. A. Heckman seems to be the result of some strange Louisiana procedures. (See CD 75, p. 160, enclosed.) In connection with Quiroga and his attempt to keep the FBI and N.O. police informed about Oswald, I enclose a letter to the Archives and some notes on CD 75, pp. 705-6, which I think are a suppressed interview with him. Bill Turner might know if it is standard procedure for the FBI to interview people like Oswald and pretend they asked for the interview, or (if this is still done) you could easily phone someone in New York who has been arrested on similar charges and ask about it.

Sincerely,

Paul