

October 31, 1967

Dear Sylvia,

I was waiting for it quite eagerly, and yesterday it came--Accessories After the Fact, by Sylvia Meagher. Since a copy was addressed to me personally, I presume this was done at your direction; thank you very much for this kindness.

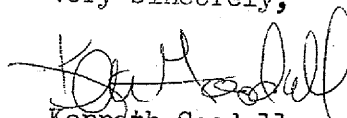
I was up until 4 this morning reading it and still am far from finished. Since I'm interested in certain aspects of the investigation, I found myself reading it not straight through but jumping from section to section. I have not been disappointed with any of them. You have an enviable ability to write clear prose, and your organization is superb. The way in which you have gathered the stray testimony and documents into a meaningful juxtaposition is to be praised, and your assessments are always judicious. I was especially impressed by two things that reveal a warm heart and a clear head at work: Chapter 12, which is the first rounded portrait of Oswald, written with compassion (but not blind compassion); and your remarks on the Garrison investigation, by which it is clear that your sense of justice always rules.

Often in the last year I have wanted to call you, either on a specific point or merely to discuss this topic of mutual interest or to learn how your work was progressing, but I felt that such calls might interfere. Now that the book is finished, I wonder if we might get together soon, perhaps for dinner?

Incidentally, have you read Robert Oswald's book? One point in it has me stumped. A note sent by Lee to Robert about mid-January, 1963, mentions that Lee had been out of town and so hadn't been able to thank Robert earlier for a Christmas present to June. I wasn't aware of any trip he made out of Dallas at that time--a rather important period since presumably his use of "Hidell" on the pistol order came a few days later. Is this something I just overlooked?

Again--thanks for the book. My fondest hope for it is that it gives many other people some sleepless nights, too.

Very sincerely,


Kenneth Goodall