

29 October 1969

Dear David:

This is to rescind my "bulletin." I met the temp verbatim, a Mr. Jefferson by name, during the lunch break today, and he was thoroughly unhelpful. He has the stenographic notes of the Zapruder and Shaneyfelt testimony, has no suggestions on how we can get a typescript except to write to the Dietrich court reporters agency in New Orleans. How much will they charge for a transcript? Well, he answered impatiently, 50¢ a page or a dollar a page, depending on how they feel at the moment.

As for his impressions of the Shaw trial and the whole Dallas affair, I listened and felt my blood boil and bubble with irritation and barely restrained myself from tossing my cup of coffee in his stupid face. This Jefferson is an Englishman who has resettled in Fort Worth Texas and seems to roam the country according to what work is available. He is opinionated, secretive, uninformed, stupid, ignorant, obnoxious, and self-satisfied to the very core.

According to him, Garrison was absolutely and completely right about everything except only that he had the wrong man (Shaw). The real culprit was Banister, who is beyond mortal reach. Oswald? Guilty, of course, as one of the conspirators and one of the riflemen, everyone knows that. He carried the rifle into the building didn't he and wasn't he on the 6th floor? Shooting? Why didn't I go down and see Garrison personally? He was sure that Garrison would tell me many things that would help me understand the whole assassination.

For example, did I know that the Dallas Police had arrested a man on the knoll and kept him in custody 24 hours, until the CIA instructed them to let the man go? What was the man's name, asked I. He didn't know, and the DPD had destroyed all records and other traces of him on CIA orders.

Did I know that Ruby was hired to execute Oswald because he had only six months to live anyhow? He had cancer. SM: How could he then live for more than 3 years with a cancer? He: Happens to lots of people. But it is a matter of public record that Ruby had cancer on 11/24/63 and wasn't he getting radiation treatments?

And so on. Do you need to hear more? If I did not strike him physically, it was ~~bravura~~ because of my respect for Bernie, who was with us and whose intentions had been the best. But the man was a wash-out, the worst kind of smug tower of ignorance, and a complete waste of my time. Hope this has not slowed you down in trying to get hold of the Zapruder and Shaneyfelt transcripts. Sorry!

Very hurriedly,