

3 October 1967

Dear Shirley,

You will be interested in the enclosed transcript of Garrison's recent pronouncements...I haven't written because I was sick for a while, then on a rush job on Thompson's book, which should be out at the same time as mine. The official date of publication of Accessories After The Fact is November 30th, but I hope to have a few copies early in that month or at the end of October.

I hope that you have been okay...it seems a long time since I heard from you. Did you and Penn make up your differences? If you still get TMO, you will find an editorial on Garrison in the current issue (October). As Arneni predicted, people who read it leap to the conclusion that I am the unsigned author of the editorial, or responsible for it in some way. That is not true. Indeed, if I had written it, it would have been a much tougher editorial, because this Garrison creature is really increasingly irresponsible and dangerous. You should send to ABC-TV, 1330 Avenue of the Americas, NYC 10019, for a transcript of his interview on Page One, on Sunday 24 September 1967--it's a lulu.

Garrison now has accused (1) Shaw, Ferrie, and Oswald; (2) Cuban exiles; (3) CIA; (4) Dallas cops; (5) insanely patriotic oil millionaires; (6) members of the White Russian community in Dallas; (7) members of the John Birch Society; and (8) members of the Minutemen. He is bound to hit on someone who was really involved, if he names enough groups. But since he offers no evidence to back up his charges, he is in effect conferring immunity on these he accuses, by crying wolf.

I am sorry to say that I have become completely estranged from Maggie, as well as some of the other critics, because of strong differences on the issue of Garrison. I am still in touch with Harold, though; he says that Garrison is not incriminating LHO, but I think he is dead wrong on that. Garrison has cited the so-called "code" which links LHO with both Shaw and Ruby; he claims also to have found the same "Pe" phone number in both LHO's address book and in Ruby's phone messages (he neglected to say that it is the number of a TV or radio station, which hardly suggests a link between the two men). And he claims that Shaw had a rendezvous with LHO and Ruby at Baton Rouge and passed money to them. If that is not incriminating LHO in the conspiracy, what is it?

It is beyond my understanding that any "critic" should accept, or fail to protest against, Garrison's contrived and fabricated "evidence" against LHO, while spending years in the fight against the WC's equally contrived inventions against him. I am very bitter to find that so many of the "critics" turn out to be first cousins to Arlen Specter, and are so dishonest in the tolerance or credence they confer on Garrison, who, just like the WC, is falsely accusing an innocent man. (If LHO is guilty, neither Garrison nor the WC have produced any conclusive or acceptable evidence against him--so to me, he remains innocent.)

Not much is new. I am in a strange limbo, waiting for the book to appear, alternately nervous and confident. I would be less apprehensive, I guess, if I still felt part of the "group" which turns out to have been illusory. Most of our colleagues are devotees of Garrison, which to me is practically the same as being apologetists for the WR. I can understand the temptation to "believe in" Garrison; but not the constant self-deception and compromise with facts which is required by continuing to "believe in" him, when he has shown himself to be such a loud-mouthed idiot. Do write soon. Love,