

September 29, 1980

Dear Sylvia,

Bravo! This is just a quick note to say I received your new book today. I'm very pleased for you. All of your hard work was worth it. The final product is terrific -- just as good as I envisioned it would be. I particularly like the "Key to Names" section. And thanks very much for the nice acknowledgement. When you next speak or write to Gary Owens send him my congratulations.

The latest I've heard about the Justice Department is that the acoustics will be done sometime between January and June (if Carter remains as President; no one really knows what will happen if Reagan wins.) The study will be along the lines of what Jack Anderson (and Zodiac earlier) has reported in his column today -- a National Academy of Science directed examination. Their report will be sent to the House Judiciary Committee [Rodino] for a recommendation. Nothing else is being done on any other aspect of the case or on the HSCA Report, except for continued work by the FBI's Organized Crime Section on Marcello -- but that pertains to the BRILAB probe. I have hardly any expectations at this point that anyone in government seriously cares about the issue anymore. I don't see books like Summers, or Blakey/Billings (in November) or even Lifton having any effect on the political process. And all the media cares about is Eddowes and the buried body controversy. The Eddowes publicity has me a little worried. If they ever dig up the body, and it is Oswald (as I believe), then the media will have a field day accusing the critics (we will be lumped in with Eddowes) of being ghoulish publicity seekers. I don't know what his motives are at this point, but I'm glad Robert Oswald is holding firm. [I suspect, as do others, that Marina is being paid off by Eddowes to side with him.]

In case you missed it [not to get you mad], I'm enclosing the Maxine Cheshire column on Lifton's book from earlier this month. I know nothing more about the book than what's in that column; and I've only spoken to Lifton once in the past year [hostilely].

I'm still very busy on the investigative/research phase of the Watergate book, and will be at least through November 1. Things are going pretty well there.

Good luck with the book. Talk to you soon.

Regards

Jeff

10/1/80  
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