

12 March 1973

Dear Mr. Secchie,

Let me try to answer your questions. You ask what specific proof would be sufficient to disprove the findings of the Warren Commission. I do not expect that any proof or series of proofs will suffice, because in fact the most massive evidence of the Commission's errors, misrepresentations, and distortions, and of its lack of probity, have already been published in the major books and articles. A devious and deceitful Government, and a complacent press and other indifferent or cowardly news media have generally ignored the evidence brought to light by the critics and I see no prospect of any change of heart.

One reason for the impatience and disregard of criticism of the WR on the part of the news media is the disgraceful circus and burlesque conducted for some years by Garrison, while he was district attorney in New Orleans. He and the critics who supported him destroyed much of the credibility of the challenges to the Warren Report, even if authentic and wholly credible.

I have nothing but contempt for the whole Garrison operation and all the so-called evidence that he elucidated. For that reason, I completely reject the allegations made by or about Jim Hicks. I completely reject the allegation that the FBI had 12 days of advance information about the assassination.

The matter of J.D. Tippit remains shrouded in mystery and confusion. I have set forth my evaluation of the known evidence in my book Accessories, from which you will see that I do not accept the notion that Oswald had any part in the Tippit shooting. For that reason, I must be guarded about any suggestion of a link of the kind you suggest among Tippit/Oswald/Ruby.

Unfortunately I do not know enough about computers or about photography to make any judgment as to the validity of computerization of the photographic evidence. I believe that Richard Sprague is working along that line; his views have been published in Computers and Automation. But I must admit that I have little confidence in Sprague and less in Computers and Automation.

Finally, while I have heard allegations about Abraham Belden I have never seen any evidence that he was jailed for reporting an assassination plot. It may be true, or it may not be. I suspect it is a pure invention by those who have been hawking this allegation.

When you go to Dallas you might contact Mrs. Mary Ferrell (214-528-0716). She is immensely knowledgeable and kind to visitors.

I sincerely hope that this letter has been helpful to you.

*Sylvia Meagher*