

17 April 1967

My dear Gordon,

It was good to hear from you and I am most intrigued to learn of your visit to New Orleans and Dallas. I am especially pleased to hear that you came away with a generally favourable view of the Garrison investigation. That is consistent with the impressions derived by several others who have been there. Nevertheless, I would be less than candid if I did not say that I regret that Garrison relied on witnesses like Russe and Vernon Bundy for his indictment of Clay Shaw. No doubt he wanted to keep his stronger evidence undisclosed for the time being; but I think it might have been wiser to delay the arrest completely rather than pursue it on the dubious evidence of these two accusers.

I have absolutely no reason to believe that Oswald was present at the alleged meeting in Ferrie's apartment. Clearly he departed New Orleans on or about September 25, 1963 and could not have been with Ferrie in New Orleans in October. And, as you say, the Russe description of Oswald, both in physical appearance and in behaviour, is utterly inconsistent with LHO.

Sorry, but I have no idea of the identity of the NYC man who visited Altgens, nor of the photograph he displayed. Had you not specified that it was not the Nix film, I would have thought that it was Jones Harris, and that he showed Altgens the photograph similar to the Nix frame published in the December 1966 Esquire.

Finally, re: the Tippit affair, I was not aware that Salandria was doing anything special on that beyond continuing to explore the possible implication in that shooting of a Philadelphia man against whom there seems, in my opinion, no serious evidence. I believe that there will be an article about this man in a forthcoming issue of Esquire. So far as I know, no one has turned up anything new or startling on the Tippit case--if there has been anything of the sort, I have not been told about it.

If you have the time to write again, I should be most interested to hear more about your New Orleans visit and in particular the elements which contributed to your estimate of the Garrison probe. All the best,

Sylvia Meagher