

## PRENTICE HALL

## TRADE DIVISION

Philip M. Pochoda Vice President Publisher Editor-In-Chief

November 24, 1986

Sylvia Meagher 302 W. 12th Street New York, NY 10011

Dear Sylvia Meagher,

Either despite or because of Jim Garrison's notoriety, and the fiasco of the New Orleans trial in 1967, I am considering publishing his second attempt to write a book on the assassination laying blame on the CIA. Fifteen years after HERITAGE OF STONE, Garrison has produced a far more coherent document, with some interesting new evidence, which seems to make a plausible case for his explosive theory.

What I need is to separate the reputation of Garrison the man and prosecutor from the validity and credibility of the book and the thesis. Obviously the public attitude towards the existence of a conspiracy has changed dramatically in the past two decades through your efforts, as well as because of the recent books by Summers, Hurd, Peter Dale Scott, and many others.

I think a responsible version of the Garrison position deserves its say in public, but only if it is meticulously accurate in its presentation of the facts, and within bounds of credibility in drawings its conclusions. Since I have long thought of you as the most authoritative researcher in the assassination field, I wonder whether I could hire you to examine the Garrison manuscript, to check it carefully for misstatements of fact as well as significant omissions which would affect the argument, and finally to assess the credibility of the conclusions.

We can discuss payment, if this is an assignment you would be willing to undertake. I hope that you will consider it favorably, and not allow Garrison's past performances to deter you.

It might be easiest to discuss this by telephone. My number is 333-2746. Very truly yours,

Philip M. Pochoda

PMP/kk