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Seattle, Washington 98107
15 Apr 69

Mrs. Sylvia Meagher
302 West Twelfth Street
New York, New York 10014

Dear Mrs. Meagher:

Let me begin by apologizing for our never having printed your material on Garrison. Money ran out about then, and the newsletter was suspended. I regret putting you to the trouble, and depriving our mailing list of important background information.

I visited Los Angeles about two weeks after Shaw's acquittal, and it was quite an experience. Burton has, at least for the moment, withdrawn from the fray. Publicly, he was the most widely known Garrison supporter in the area, and practically went into a state of shock at the acquittal. Ray Marcus remains strong in the faith, and told me he considers Flammonde's book to be one of the four most important written on the assassination (off-hand, I wonder what the other three would be. Let's see . . . two copies of The Bastard Bullet . . .). Lillian Castellano also is still a fervid New Orleanean, but that is relatively harmless, since most of her work now is about the RFK killing. Maggie Field, as usual, is following Marcus' lead. Steve Jaffe, who got quite nasty and shabby treatment by New Orleans and was caught in the edge of the Boxley purge, is trying to clear his name. As far as I can see, his only crime was of being naive in investigative matters, and being the one to submit memoranda to New Orleans on these matters. If it had not been him, it would have been someone else. I have been involved in private investigations of matters unrelated to the assassination, and I was appalled to see the nonsense all the Southern California credential-carriers were swallowing and passing on to Garrison (where the reception was usually as uncritical). Dave Lifton's book is nearing completion, and I am looking forward to seeing it, although I fear he is being much too optimistic about the chances for publication.

Fred Newcomb (who is extremely angry at Garrison) ^{in the right name} is doing some brilliant work with the photographs. I understand you have his 133-A and 133-B work. He also is working on a presentation involving the censoring of Willis 5 and certain other photographs, and seems to be onto something important. Through an analysis of photographs and, to a lesser extent, testimony, he has amassed information tending to show that two railroad cars sitting behind the concrete arcade were removed within a few minutes of the assassination. His work to date has been careful enough that he has been able to conclude that the person who doctored Willis 5 was right-handed.

I saw quite a lot of material in Los Angeles relating to the Richard Case Nagell hoax, the Farewell America hoax, the Jim Rose-Vince Rhodes-E. Carl McNabb-CIA pilot hoax, and assorted other

Sylvia Meagher, p. 2

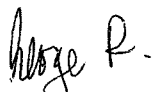
whimsies, including some of Bill Turner's investigative work. This was my first encounter with the raw material of the Garrison affair, and I was astonished that responsible adults could take such absurdities seriously. No high level of analysis was needed to demonstrate the falsity of most of it.

My meeting with Senator Jackson has not yet occurred, but he has expressed himself as unreservedly willing to listen, so I have been putting together a presentation I hope will be reasonable and persuasive.

By the way, in preparing this presentation, I have found myself once again relying upon AAF for insights and information. In doing so, and in comparing your work with the footnotes and with the work of the other published critics, it once again struck me what a superb job you have done. For mastery of the volumes and depth of understanding, it cannot be beaten. The same goes for your TMO articles, too. Well, this is all by way of explaining why, if we can get our newsletter going again, I intend to do another review of your book to replace that woeful little mimeographed thing I did before. A master work like AAF certainly deserves better than I have given it.

One last item: I noticed another incredibility in Markham's testimony I have not seen mentioned before. If she was correct about Oswald being a couple of steps to the side of the right front door of Tippit's car, and about Tippit facing toward the front of the car and having gotten only as far as the left front wheel, then clever Oswald not only shot the President in the front from the rear, but shot Tippit in the front from the side. I suppose that if he could do one, the other would be no great achievement.

Best wishes,



George E. Rennar