

Hampton House Apt. 210  
4011 Druid Hills Drive  
Dallas, Texas, 75224

November 29, 1966

Dear Mrs. Meagher:

Enclosed are two clips of local origin. Do you also want clips which appear in local papers of national press origin? Fortunately, I am a great paper reader--we take both Dallas papers and I buy the Oak Cliff Tribune (twice a week publication) on the street. So, just let me know what you would like to have on these and I'll do my best to keep up with the local front. Although I've just moved to Dallas, I have many good friends here and can probably help with most information you need. -- Probably should make my position clear--my help is offered with no strings whatsoever attached. I'm not writing a book or keeping any sort of records. I'm not helping anyone else in anyway but would if I respected what they were trying to do. In other words, it would be more than amply reward for me just to know that everything has been done to get the facts straight that possibly can be done. Somehow, I feel that because of the superior overall view you must have by virtue of the fantastic amount of work that went into your Index, that you have the best chance of marshalling the events in their true order. Frankly and simply, I want to help.

To help keep any reference straight, I enclose a card which we can use of the area itself if you have need of additional information there. For instance, the shots could have originated in the Warehouse Building and I wonder what investigation was made of it. The existence of a tunnel or somesort of passage between it and the TSBD would solve some of the questions raised by Popkin's book--which I just read this past week-end. Was Ruby at the hospital? Is it a fact that a police car honked for Oswald at his rooming house? These were new facts to me! Popkin also stated that Oswald disappeared for about 30 minutes after the Tippit shooting. I was told by a friend who was raised in that neighborhood that he spent part of it in a branch library about a block from Ruby's apartment. I was by there last week and there is a new branch building--don't know whether it is on the site of the old library or not. I have forgotten the name of the apartments where Ruby lived--could you give me this address so that I can ckeck out the distances involved.

After reading Popkin's book, I felt that my theory about the actual shooting was reinforced: If Oswald fired at all it probably hit the street and accounted for the fragmented pieces which were reported or at most, considering the condition of his gun, accounted for the partial penetration of JFK's back wound. When he realized that someone else was firing, he was so unnerved that he left--probably thinking he had been sold out--and missed getting killed ~~by~~ ~~by~~ by upsetting the time schedule of the officer coming into building. \*\*\* After leaving the building ~~xxxxxxx~~ his actions

Page 2 - November 29, 1966

were not the actions of a man with a plan but those of a man with a plan which had gone wrong in some way which he was unable to account for immediately. If the police car was to be his get-away, he was afraid to risk it. He considered going back to town--he waited for a bus in the open probably thinking this was safe. He was probably going to town to find Ruby--then he changed his mind and decided to go to Ruby's apartment to gain perhaps the advantage of surprise--he felt he needed it because he now feared Ruby as his enemy and possible liquidator. (The bus he got on in town would have taken him to Ruby's apartment--instead he went home to get a gun.)

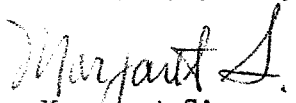
On looking at the film in Life, I think JFK was shot much sooner than assumed by the Warren Report. It seems to me that he is bringing his right hand down from a waving position and his left hand up from his lap to grasp his neck for several frames before the actual purpose of the movements can be seen.

Actually, I feel like a nut even discussing this with you when you know it so well. On the other hand, it seems important to avoid the mistake of the Warren Com. and not lock on to a certain theory and try to make the facts fit it. Things are so confused now that the only way ~~x~~ the real solution has a chance of appearing is to get all of the facts and let them tell what really ~~xxxx~~ happened.

If you have not read "A Texan Looks at Lyndon", you will want to do so to get an inside track to the political climate down here.

Good cheer and good hunting.

Sincerely yours,

  
Margaret Simmons

\* Another one of those strange coincidences - one of Oswald's ex-landladies being on the same bus - may have added to his fear and suspicion. His indecision was also shown at the bus station when he offered his cab to an elderly lady.

What about Ruth Paine - she had never rung true with me!