

28 March 1970

Dear Mr. Olds,

Further to my letter of the 27th (yesterday): I just got a phonecall from Mrs. Marguerite Oswald at Fort Worth, who without even a greeting proceeded to berate and abuse me with utmost fury for "my article in the National (sic) Observer." I was utterly bewildered but managed to extract from her that she was enraged about my statement in the article that it was not clear from Warren's remarks whether or not Oswald's remains had in fact been removed from his grave.

She insisted that this statement would create the impression that the remains had been secretly transferred and create a public clamor for exhumation, to determine whether or not that was so. I said that I did not think there would be such a public reaction but that if the statement in question caused any problems, you would surely be willing to publish a clarification to the effect that (as Mrs. Oswald insists) no disturbance of the grave would have been possible without legal action, or without her knowledge, and that in fact there was no such legal process and no disturbance of the remains at any time.

I had thought that this would soothe the Mother in History but it only seemed to madden her still more, to the point where she was literally screaming hysterically in what seemed to me to be a major temper tantrum typical of a young child. What really seemed to upset her was that I had not consulted her about the article nor given her credit for her devotion for her son's remains. The poor woman feels put upon by everyone, whether friend or foe, but she is so utterly unreasonable and evil-mannered that it is difficult to remain patient or sympathetic with her. (This is not the first time that she has been aggressive and abusive, for little or no cause.)

I tried to phone you just now but a gentleman at your home said that you were away for the week and he had no number where you could be reached; so I thought I would alert you by letter to this incident. Mrs. Oswald may try to contact you about the offensive statement in the article and treat you to a little of her spleen, so be forewarned.

What next?

Regards,

Sylvia Meagher
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