

# LIFE

TIME & LIFE BUILDING  
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May 28, 1968

Mrs. Sylvia Meagher  
302 West 12th Street  
New York, N.Y. 10014

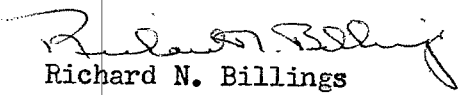
Dear Mrs. Meagher:

I was extremely interested to read a copy of your May 25 letter to Kerry Thornley, and I was gratified to learn that a person with your background in assassination evidence is convinced, as I am, of the man's innocence.

I am sure you recognize the difficulties that must be faced by a writer who decides to delve into Thornley's predicament. First, there is the problem of dealing with evidence that has yet to be presented to a jury, although this is mitigated by the fact that Garrison has already released ample elements of his "case" to the press. Then there is the temptation to try to prove Kerry's denial, which, as in the case of all negative assertions, is virtually impossible to do. Finally, and most important, it will not do at this stage to go after Garrison with editorial bluster, or to try to blast back with the same clumsy diatribes he has been able to get away with. He would simply respond with that old nonsense about federal conspiracies to intimidate him.

The type of story I think would be effective is an analysis of the structure of evidence Garrison claims to have compiled against Thornley. I am working on such a piece, and it seems to be coming together quite well. I would naturally appreciate any information that you feel would contribute.

Sincerely,

  
Richard N. Billings