

7 November 1972

Dear Cyril,

I am sorry that I have been so long in replying to your letter of the 18th of October.

Where Tippit is concerned, it is not for the critics to prove that Oswald was innocent. It is for the prosecution--the Warren Commission--to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that he was guilty. That, the Commission failed to do. It adduced a mixed bag of "evidence"--some of which was dubious, some incomplete, some contradictory, and some demonstrably falsified (see, for example, the so-called discovery of the gray zipper jacket).

I am personally convinced that Oswald was framed in the assassination of JFK, and I note that you also believe that he may not have been involved at all in the assassination. Without adopting the Commission's circular reasoning (Oswald killed Kennedy, therefore he killed Tippit and tried to kill Walker, which proves that he did indeed kill Kennedy), I do have to acknowledge the possibility that Oswald was framed in both murders, and that the so-called "evidence" against him is porous and tainted at every point. I have documented and repudiated the various evidentiary items that "point to the fact that Oswald shot and killed Tippit". The so-called "evidence" rests largely on the testimony of a hysterical woman of very low intelligence (Helen Markham) and I detailed in Accessories why I repudiate completely the dishonest findings of an unsavory and dishonest Commission.

I do not think that I have been influenced by Weisberg and Roffman. They think that I "sold out" to you and have sent me some biting commentary on my personal responsibility and blame in this affair. I have tried to be objective and independent during my nine years of work on the case; if there has been any "tilting", it has not been toward Weisberg or Roffman.

I will always be glad to hear from you, Cyril, and to be helpful if I can, once I have returned to normal functioning. For the time being I am still trying to liquidate the back-log that accumulated during my four months of illness and I must admit that anything that impinges on the case makes me melancholy, frustrated, angry and despondent. I have had too many disappointments over the years. I think they contributed to my virtual collapse this past summer. I hope that I am wrong in believing that nothing will change the official story, no matter what new evidence is uncovered. In any case, I am, as I have always been,

Yours very sincerely,

*Sylvia*