

C O P Y
(Handwritten letter)

5/18/69

Dear Mrs. Meagher,

Thank you for the kind letter.

A frightening aspect of this tragedy, even after the trial, is that if you confront a Garrison supporter with the endless list of manufactured evidence ("the Lee Odom P.O. number," "the library card," "the airport registration"), the unsubstantiated testimony of convicts (Bundy, Bolden), interested parties (Max Gonzales, Roger Craig) and the mentally confused (Russo, Nagel, Speisel, Rich), the crude lies (the Shaw, Kennedy "flight" of 1963), fantasies (Ruby's cancer "induced" death), fantastic claims ("the interview with a foreign agent who had penetrated the forces involved"), the hounding of reporters (Sheridan, Townley, Chandler) and vulnerable but unhelpful citizens (Thornley and Shaw himself), and the assassins who began as homosexuals killing for thrills "like Leopold and Loeb" but became by stages the CIA, the FBI, Cuban exiles, Minutemen, General Walker, the Dallas Police, oil men, Nazi elements, and other Pentagon forces...Well, what can be said to all this?

The Garrison supporter will simply reply, "Jim is wrong on certain details (any you mention) but he has the correct solution."

"The CIA has destroyed the evidence and killed the witnesses."

Thus, his defense, like that of a classic paranoid, cannot be broken.

Mark Lane represents the political critic. He has tried to use Garrison to attack his enemies but led "The Rush to Ridicule" in New Orleans. Certainly, he is far too intelligent, as, say, Penn Jones might not be, to be fooled by Jim Garrison. I suppose his behavior confused me the most.

Had the critics taken your position we would have been spared this disgrace. Your honesty and candor have been a beacon of light in the fog of lies from the Warren Commission and its Garrison-oriented critics. Future historians will be much in your debt.

Edward Williams
200 East 66 Street
New York, N.Y.

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