

28 February 1970

Mr. Edward R. Williams
42-55 Calden Street Apt 15H
Flushing NY 11355

Dear Mr. Williams,

You are most kind and thoughtful to send me press clippings, as you do from time to time, and I really do appreciate it. Do you subscribe to the L.A. Free Press? I no longer receive it but I would like to see the excerpts from the Stanley Marks book, if they are not completely nonsensical, when published.

You may be familiar with Marks' book of about three years ago, titled Murder Most Foul!, in the format of a long series of questions and answers about the Dallas assassination. Unfortunately, it is marred by many inaccuracies and irresponsible statements, as I recall the book, so that I tend to take with a large grain of salt the promises in the LAFP about his forthcoming book. The LAFP itself is hardly a trustworthy periodical, in view of its total lack of objectivity about Garrison and the absurd apologies made on his behalf even after the Shaw trial fiasco.

I do not know of any serious evidence of another rifle found at the scene although there are some fragmentary and possibly significant clues. Relying on memory, I can mention the testimony of Thayer Waldo, the reporter, who was told very soon after the shooting that a rifle had been found on the roof of the Book Depository. But the police secretary who gave Waldo this information later said, when he tried to follow up this lead, that it had turned out to be a rifle left there by a police officer, presumably during the search of the building. Another clue, as I vaguely recall it, is a photograph of some police officers on the fire escape of the Book Depository who apparently are exhibiting an object to other officers on the street below—but this photo in itself did not seem to me to constitute sufficient evidence of a second rifle.

I place somewhat greater hope in the alleged letter from Lt. Day to Curry supposedly admitting that he had never found Oswald's prints on the Carcano rifle, since the entire body of evidence surrounding the palmprint said to have been discovered and lifted from the underside of the weapon by Day (set forth in Accessories, "The Palmprint on the Rifle") suggests fraudulence and fabrication. However, I am not too optimistic about the alleged letter either, because it seems highly unlikely that Day would make such an admission in writing, and because Marks and the LAFP are quite capable of exaggerating and inflating the actual contents of Day's letter.

While I do have the Curry book, I had not heard of The Murder of JFK by Bonner or of Conspiracy Interpretations of the Assassination of President Kennedy by Alfred Goldberg, the Army historian seconded to the Warren Commission. Do you have these two books? Can you send me the names of the publishers and any other information needed to order copies? Or might I borrow your copies of these two books, if you have them, as it sometimes takes months for a book order to be filled, as was true of the Curry book.

With thanks and kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,