

June 18, 1964

Dear Mr. Allen:

I must confess to a certain amount of confusion in reading your article about Marina Oswald. Marina has said to the Commission that her husband had never threatened anyone; yet, with the next breath, she says Lee Oswald threatened to kill Nixon (or the Vice President?).

Perhaps if Marina had not been, herself, threatened so consistently by the Secret Service and the FBI during her 10 weeks of confinement under them, she would not be such a witless tale-bearer. Marina is in the position of the usual sycophant; she is striving hard to please.

Also of interest is the story told by the reporter (Dallas) who claims to have first hand evidence (gathered from Gordon Shanklin, Dallas FBI) that the FBI paid a number of Oswald's bills, including some hotel bills, prior to the assassination. I was able to tape this gentleman's conversation.

I'm sure you will be happy to learn that a group of us here in Hominy feel we are beginning to unravel the edges of this terrible mystery. We have done an enormous amount of work on the time element in regard to Officer Tippit's death. We don't want to go into this until after the Warren Commission report is in. We feel (since we, too, do not support any "conspiratorial theory") the Commission report will not examine the death of Officer Tippit in any where near the detail necessary. Therefore, when we are able to analyse the report to find Commission omissions, we will proceed. Actually, the death of Officer Tippit has a much greater bearing, in our opinion, on the murder of Lee Oswald than does the assassination of the President.

Was amused by the article in the July Redbook magazine about Ruth Paine. In particular, Mrs. Paine's foolish statement: I never lie, etc., was ironic. The article written by Mrs. West disagreed in a number of important ways from the initial, long conversation my children and I had with Mrs. Paine in Irving in February. As I have said to you before, Mrs. Paine was NOT under any obligation to tell one damn thing to me. The fact is, however, that she did. And the facts she told to us varied considerably from the "facts" she told Mrs. West. Therefore, Mrs. Paine's preposterous statement: I never lie, etc., has been shot to hell as far as we are concerned.

We are wondering exactly HOW MUCH CREDIBILITY the Warren Commission report will give to a witness such as this? The Warren Commission report has history to face and should not, in the long run, be too vulnerable.

Sincerely,  
S. Martin