

500 Glyndon Street N.W.
Vienna, Virginia 221 (-)

September 20, 1967

#X
Miss Rosemary James
Mr. Jack Wardlaw
New Orleans States-Item
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Miss James and Mr. Wardlaw:

A passage from your Book, "Plot or Politics" which paraphrases an article that appeared in the New Orleans States-Item has been brought to my attention.

"Dalzell was an incorporator of a militant anti-Castro organization in New Orleans early in 1961 - the friends of Democratic Cuba joining him as incorporators were Guy Banister, Grady C. Durham and William Klein."

The enclosed letter to Jim Garrison is self explanatory. I want to add that I have never met Guy Banister, and have had no business dealings with Grady Durham of any kind whatsoever. Moreover, I never heard of the Friends of Democratic Cuba or any other subterranean organization of its kind other than what has come to my attention through the national press.

For your information, The Free Voice of Latin America was formed in response to a growing concern by New Orleans businessmen that Latin America might fall outside this Country's sphere of influence as a result of the debacle in Cuba. We presented our program to the DMBC and received some support from the Major's office.

The Free Voice was conceived with the idea of strengthening cultural ties with Latin America and as a supplement to the Voice of America. It was a good idea but it did not gather enough support. Edward Butler's hybrid organization grew because he sold fear, suspicion and mistrust. But it won't work in Latin America because Mr. Butler does not know how to sell the United States.

The aforementioned quote from your Book is a foul and monstrous lie. It has caused me anguish, and embarrassment. If it is not retracted, I will sue for defamation and libel, joining both you, your publisher, and the State-Item as co-defendants. It is not enough for you to merely

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give notice of this Complaint. I insist that you investigate this matter and advise the public that you were misinformed. As ethical journalists and decent people - this is something you must do.

The enclosed letter to Jim Garrison is a privileged communication and not meant for publication.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM KIRKIN

Encl. (1)