

From

Joachim Joesten's "TRUTH LETTER" Vol. II, No. 8, January 1, 1970

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READERS' FORUM

A Protest from Sylvia Meagher

Dear Mr. Joesten,

You owe me an apology and a retraction for your astonishing, unwarranted and misleading statement in the October 15th issue that 'It is clear from her remarks... that Mrs. Meagher at the time she wrote her book was ready, for all her skepticism, to accept as a fact that Oswald had been arraigned on the Kennedy murder charge.'

The entire point of the sub-chapter 'A Strange Arraignment' is that I did NOT accept the account given in the Warren Report, or the relevant contents of the 26 volumes of the testimony and exhibits, of the so-called arraignment. Even if you did not recognize the irony and sarcasm of the writing and chose to take certain excerpts literally, you could hardly have misunderstood my concluding remarks, on page 309, penultimate paragraph.

Moreover, you surely could not misconstrue or find any ambiguity in my letter to you dated 18 February 1969, from which I quote:

"...I do want to thank you most warmly for your generous compliments to Accessories After the Fact and will take this opportunity to ask you, as I have often meant to do, what you make of the section I called 'A Strange Arraignment' (pages 305-309). After studying all the available evidence, I was certainly convinced that you were right in charging that Oswald had never been arraigned at all for the murder of President Kennedy."

I sent you the document I had obtained from the Archives as a courtesy, in deference to the fact that you were the first one to dispute the so-called arraignment, and I am dismayed that your response was to misrepresent my position despite the absolute clarity with which it was stated. This is a disservice and an injustice which I feel sure you will wish, in simple fairness, to rectify in your next issue.

Yours sincerely,

Sylvia Meagher

Apology is hereby made. I'm afraid I had forgotten Mrs. Meagher's above-quoted letter to me in which she did, indeed, make her position on the issue absolutely clear, when I reproduced the document she had obtained from the Archives and commented on it.

If I did not rectify my mistake promptly, the reason is that Mrs. Meagher's letter had been sent to an old address in Munich and then "returned to sender" due to a postal error. She then sent it to my New York address wherefrom it was forwarded to Germany again, all of which took several weeks. Readers please note that my present address is: Joachim Joesten, 7890 Gutenberg über Waldshut, Germany.

Sigh-of-the-Month:

"If only the deed had been performed by patently demented men!"

(Picture caption in Time of Dec. 5, 1969, in connection with the My Lai massacre)

Yes, isn't it a shame they didn't get some "patently demented men" like Oswald, Ray and Sirhan together to do their killing for them, instead of using clean all-American boys like Lt. Calley for an atrocity Mama didn't like at all.