

Paul, Gary, Hal, Jim

7/28/69

In the event you did not notice it, Thursday's Times-Pic reported the murder of Lyde Johnson, by the son of Governor and didn't. He announced running-mate the year he said he was running for

This man was so bad even Garrison wouldn't use him, but he had no reluctance in making available to those supposedly his friends, writers, copies of the statement given by Johnson in his own handwriting) to which no critical evaluation was attached.

Johnson's statement neatly fit with others all similar and all questionable, all for the Baton Rouge area, allegedly putting them with Oswald, in his case with Ruby added.

In the last minute, right before the trial, I was able to talk them out of using another such who they were then preparing to fly from Denver to be a witness, in that case by getting them to hold off until I could get the FBI reports. These were similar to but inconsistent with the current version, adapted for Shaw.

Johnson was a terrible, bad man. His murder cannot have any connection with the "Garrison case". Because of the present and I hope not temporary silence, I do not know what is believed there. More important, so far as I know, nothing has been said.

When I was in DC Thursday I phoned Johnson to ask if he knew when I might expect response to my inquiry about the weight of 398, of which some of you have copies. He said it was then "in channels", by which I take it typed and awaiting Rhoads' signature. But as of today it has not arrived. However, this represents a very considerable speedup in replying, for it had not been a month and this year I have not gotten a single response I can recall until at least two have elapsed. My Senator has agreed to make inquiry for me. I have a hunch this might improve the service to others.

est,