

Mrs. Sylvia Meagher
302 W 12 St.,
New York, N.Y. 10014

7/30/88

Dear Sylvia,

Bob Richter is doing a commemoration of the 25th anniversary for NOVA and is headed for trouble that will get a wide audience for serious misinformation. I've been hearing bits of information about this for some time. Most recently Jim Cesar told me that Bob had been to see them and for what he said he was seeking Jim referred him to me. Bib said he would not get in touch with me. If Jim asked him why he did not tell me. Jim also referred him to Post Morten, Bob asked where he could get it, Jim said from me and Bob again said he wouldn't. Jim doesn't remember whether he loaned Bob a copy of it. Earlier I'd heard that Bob spent three hours with Lifton and that he annoyed Dr. Shaw by insisting on talking about the mythical Lifton second coffin. (There were, in fact, three, but not as Lifron wrote about them.) From what Jim says Bob seems to be interested in the scientific evidence. How he can approach that without knowledge of my litigation for it I don't know. Lifton told someone who told me that Bob is very interested in Dr. Guinn and his testimony and I doubt Bob has the faintest glimmer of the fundamental disqualification of that testimony. Or, I see another disinformation that can be more hurtful to the truth than several others that are in the works for TV. One British. There is what I think may be a good one also British, by Nigel Turner for ITV. I've put him onto some very good stuff that I had cold but for which he needed pictures. From what he said they turned out great.

If Bob has fallen for that brilliant fraud Lifton's fraud there is nothing I can do about it, particularly if he doesn't want anything done. But I do assure you that if it turns out as I suspect I'll be writing to NOVA afterward. I may even break down and get a VCR so I can record it and go over it to be certain.

We haven't been in touch much and I've always stayed away from Lifton. He asked for a little help and I provided it. After his book was out he phoned and asked me about it. I didn't go into great detail with him, although I did with no effect at all with his crony Hoch, whose gullibility surprises me. I merely told Dave, of what I now recall I said, and there may have been more, that his time reconstruction did not permit the taking of the X-rays. He disputed this so I asked him when they were taken. He replied at 10 o'clock, perhaps 11. I asked him how he knows that and he said that the radiologist, Dr. Ebersole, told him that. Truth is no part of Lifton's theory is tenable. Particularly not the Navy hospital back gate. It was locked with no guard.

I write not in Richter's interest but in the interest of truth on this matter. I have no idea why he has this attitude. We saw each other only a few times when he was working of the CBS crap and have had no contact since. I can guess that maybe Lifton poisoned him to protect himself but that is only a guess. Of course I'll be sorry if NOVA soils itself. I think you and Bob once had a friendly relationship. If so I wish you can see your way clear to caution him about some sources and about his lack of basic knowledge that he can't get from most sources. And is indispensable.

My opinion of him is low^{er}ed by his lack of interest in the information I got in the litigation, particularly when we deposed Rrazier, Gallagher, Shaneyfelt and others and when I have all these records from the government most of which he can't get elsewhere. I have what is little known, about 25,000 HQ records, bulkies, that are not included in the general releases he can see at the Fensterwald archive. And, on the scientific evidence, I have Dallas records that are not included in the HQ releases. So, I wonder what kind of investigation he is making, what his idea of research is.

I hope you are as well as you can expect. I am but that is not good. More thromboses and perpetual tiredness.

Bob Groden and Harry Livingstone are working on a book. I don't know its pub date but the 25th seems like a logical target. Gordon sent me word that he and his family were coming but they haven't.

Some British scavengers whose specialty is promoting rock groups are supposedly experts and are preparing a special titled "The Day the Dream Died."

A young man working on his master's in communications at Maryland has done a documentary as his thesis. I think it will be good and there may be a market for it on cable. He thinks. I've spent some time with him.

John H. Davis' book is going to say that Carlos Marcello did it from what I gather. He now considers himself so expert, having spent his time on the mafia, that he tells me where each of five shots originated. (The British scavengers claim to have a recording of I think they say six shots.)

Mary Ferrell had a disastrous fall some time ago. For quite a period she was flat on her back. I understand she is now ambulatory and that Buck took her off for a change of scene.

I've not heard from Roger in some time. Fine person! When you speak to him please give him my best.

And my best to you, too,

Harold