

Aluminum Extrusions
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TECHNIQUE

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YEWRAH
LUMINUM

GENERAL OFFICES - 18200 S. Western Ave., Torrance California
DISTRICT OFFICE - 1001 Central Expressway, San Jose, California
TELEPHONE - 444-4444

REPLY TO DISTRICT OFFICE

20734

2/12.66

Dear Mrs. Mesgher,

Hastily, I wrote Oscar Collier this morning telling him of our phone conversation and also telling him if he saw fit to give you the copy of my book that he has. If for any reason he cannot (for I hope he is considering it) let me know. I got one back today and expect to pick another up on Monday

It was kind of you to call. I shudder to think of the phone bill. I wish I could afford them. My infrequent recent trips to New York have been a burden for we began broke and are now deep in debt. I do expect to be in New York sometime in the near future, but there is a problem I think I can solve. The friend with whom I ordinarily stay is in Europe, and I am reluctant to be at his home overnight in the ckichi, individual-residential area of Long Island, ~~but~~ when the neighbors know he is not there. So many are the kind of people who would think ill of his wife. But usually I can improvise something that doesn't require a hotel bill. I did spend one night in my car and am nonethe worse for it.

I have just heard that the other house is still serious about my book and is having an additional reading, for what purpose I do not know. From a hint I am led to believe someone may have spoken to them about Mark Lane's. They see "quality" in mine.

To give you an idea of what an author in this field faces, I had a letter three days ago from the executive editor of the house from which the copy returned today. There were, he said, "serious legal problems". In the margin the lawyer or whoever went over it after the excitedly favorable editorial recommendation marked such things as "had the Commission said less than it did about the Dallas police, every nose in the country would have wrinkled"; that Marina was a self-confessed liar (which was immediately followed by the exact quotation; that Krennen said he had lied in the police lineup; that the Commission "misrepresented" its own evidence, and that it "suppressed some"; that there was but a "shameful pretense" that Oswald's rights were looked after before the Commission (immediately followed by two examples, the failure to cross examine an obvious perjurer, accompanied by the explanation that prior to the testimony Oswald's "lawyer" had "indicated" the questions he wanted asked, and the case of the lawyer saying the record ought to show, before the fingerprint disappeared, that it had been identified as Oswald's). Now this book got an editorial endorsement from the executive editor three months ago. I have been waiting all this time for this signaling answer.

If this reaches you before you speak to Collier, ask him, if he gives you his copy, if he'd like me to send him another. And I hope you can convince him that it will sell. I believe him, yet I have trouble believing this is his real reason.

Thanks for your call. Good luck.

Sincerely,

20734

February 9, 1966

Dear Miss Meagher,

Your surprising but welcome letter comes at a time when I can answer only in haste. I did not intend my letter to the New Leader for publication, although I have no objection to it. I enclosed a letter to Sauvage, which is as yet unanswered.

I am delighted at the chore you undertook. I should like to get a copy of your index when it comes out, if it is not costly, for I am now both broke and in debt. It is for this reason I am not phoning you.

My book has not been published anywhere, and the attitude of European publishers is a little less comprehensible than that of the Americans, who can at least tell themselves they might get hurt. The same is true of agents. I have more complaint among my 50 rejections that you would be willing to believe possible.

If my experience means anything to you, unless you will labor for love, get an enforceable contract for your book before you go further. If and when I arrange for the publication of my book - when the ice is broken - the water may warm. Then I can tell you which of those I dealt with might, if my judgement of their attitudes is correct, ~~might~~ consider such a book.

I am interested in what you have done, too, and hope we may discuss these things soon. Meanwhile, do you know of any other such books floating around? By this I mean serious books, on the Commission, not such pot-boilers as "A Mother in History", and others like it, which, naturally, seem to find a ready market. I spoke to Sauvage during the summer. He had an experience similar to mine at that time. This fall they were for a while in competition at what has the reputation of being a "courageous" house. It rejected both, in my case at least over the recommendation of the editors and the executive editor. In early December I heard he had a contract, but the New Leader did not so indicate. Mark Lane, if my information is correct, broke his contract with Grove, which will now not consider any book on the subject, but did contract for its publication in England, with Bodley-Head and Penguin (paperback reprint).

Some of my friends are now investigating the possibility of raising funds for a private printing. I see little choice, and do not relish such a presentation. What you read in the Sauvage articles is but a fragment of what I have mined. I am by training and experience an investigator, writer and analyst. There is no doubt in my mind that I destroyed the entire Report and much, much more.

If there is anything else you'd like of me, please phone, but if you do, make it person to person, for we share the line with seven others in the country. This, I have no doubt, is complicating the affairs of the "Big Brother" who has ineptly revealed his interest in me. Good luck with your work.

Sincerely yours,

31 January 1966

Mr Harold Weisberg
c/o "Dear Editor"
THE NEW LEADER
7 East 15 Street
New York N Y 10003

Dear Mr Weisberg,

We seem to be in close proximity not only on page 31 of THE NEW LEADER but in degree of recoil from the Warren Report. I am very much interested in the book you have written, which you say is unpublished in the USA. Has your book been published abroad? If so, please furnish details.


I am publishing a subject index to the 26 volumes of Hearings and Exhibits; it will come out early in March, I believe, by Scarecrow Press Inc. of New York.

I have written--or, to be more precise, am writing--a book on the Warren Report, in the form of a comparative study of the numerous conflicts between the Report and the testimony and/or documents on which it pretends to be based. Although more than 300 pages are written, much more remains to be done--so numerous the distortions, omissions, and plain falsehoods.

Gradually, this work has brought me into touch with more and more people, in various parts of the country; almost invariably, communication began with expressions of relief at a break in the isolation and the discouragement of seeming to be out of step with the rest of the world. Happily, there are quite a few heretics now, but not enough.

I should like very much to hear from you about your work on the case; please write, or telephone if you prefer, Code 212, Chelsea 2-4293.

Yours sincerely,


Sylvia Meagher

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SYLVIA MEAGHER
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NEW YORK NY 10014



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~~c/o "Dear Editor"~~
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Hyattstown, Maryland

(please forward)

