

9 June 1971

Mr. Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.  
905 Sixteenth Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Fensterwald:

Reference your letter dated 3 June. I found the newspaper clipping attached thereto to be most amusing. Mrs. Blehr's "conclusions" are both presumptuous and academic. Mr. Wolfer simply made an honest mistake.

Of course, this is not to say that "the old substitution trick" hasn't been used or tried before. I understand that a rifle quite like the one picked up at a certain school book depository was discovered the following day, abandoned, in a hotel room at Terre Haute, Indiana. Its ownership was traced to a person then residing in San Antonio (or didn't THEY tell you about that?). And then there is the instance of that .45 calibre pistol which destroyed two cubic centimeters of federally-insured plaster inside an El Paso bank. I understand that in a way it bore a remarkable resemblance to the weapon that was (supposed) to be used to dust a little rabbit.

As for your statement concerning the lady in question, I found that to be amusing also.

Best regards,

  
R. Nagell

June 3, 1971

Mr. Richard Nagell  
P. O. Box 3673  
Hollywood Station  
Los Angeles, Calif.

*Barbara Warner*

Dear Mr. Nagell:

The enclosed clipping from Sunday's Washington Post may  
be of interest.

You may have known the lady in question in Mexico.

Any helpful comments?

Best regards,

Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.

BF:crr  
Encl.

January 22, 1971

Mr. Mark Lane  
c/o Mr. Paul Eberle

Dear Mr. Lane:

During our conversation at New York in August 1969, you asked me whether or not Mr. Thomas C. Lucey's account (Pages 12, 13 and 14, THE OVERSEAS FAMILY, June 20, 1969) was substantially true, and, if you recall, I replied that I would rather not answer that question "at this time."

Now, however, for reasons that are partially predicated on the death of Senator Richard B. Russell yesterday, I feel obliged to answer your question. I am doing so by enclosing herewith a copy of my own account, written and printed about one year ago, which, I believe, you will find a satisfactory answer.

I have also enclosed a copy of Senator Russell's reply to a letter I wrote him from Leavenworth in January 1967 immediately upon being apprised of Mr. Jack Ruby's demise in Dallas. My somewhat lengthy letter to Senator Russell (who was then head of the so-called CIA Watchdog Committee) detailed the CIA's involvement in President Kennedy's assassination, as far as it concerned several others and myself, and, I might add, it was written almost two months before Mr. Jim Garrison's investigation into the affair was made public.

Sincerely,



Richard Case Nagell

# Oswald Had Help, Sen. Russell Says



SEN. RICHARD RUSSELL

By DON OBERDORFER  
*Special to The Inquirer  
And Washington Post*

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—Sen. Richard B. Russell, who was a member of the Warren Commission which investigated the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, says he never believed that Lee Harvey Oswald planned the assassination alone.

"I think someone else worked with him (on the planning)," the Georgia Democrat said in one of a series of taped television interviews to be broadcast next month by WSB-TV, an Atlanta television station.

"There were too many

things—the fact that he (Oswald) was at Minsk (in the Soviet Union), and that was the principal center for educating Cuban students . . . some of the trips he made to Mexico City and a number of discrepancies in the evidence, or as to his means of transportation, the luggage he had and whether or not anyone was with him—that) caused me to doubt that he planned it all by himself," he said.

Russel appeared to be in accord with the commission's conclusions that Oswald was the man who fired the shots at Kennedy, and that he acted alone. "I think that any other commission you might appoint

today would arrive at that conclusion," he said.

Due to his doubts that Oswald planned the act alone, Russell said he insisted on a shorter sentence in the final report before he would sign it.

That sentence in the report, which was issued in September, says that "because of the difficulty of proving negatives to a certainty the possibility of others being involved with either Oswald or (Jack) Ruby cannot be established categorically but if there is any such evidence it has been beyond the reach of all the investigative agencies and resources of the United States and has not come to the attention of this commission."

## EXTENSIVE MEMOIR

The majority of the seven-member commission, headed by then-chief Justice Earl Warren, "wanted to find" that Oswald planned and acted alone, Russell said.

REGISTERED MAIL

20 July 1970

Mr. Joseph A. Calamia  
Attorney At Law  
Suite 608, Southwest National Bank Building  
El Paso, Texas 79901

Dear Mr. Calamia:

Reference is made to my letter of 21 November 1968 and your reply dated 13 December 1968. As you will recall, these communications pertained to the return of certain items that were used in evidence against me at the first and/or second trial on the merits, namely, a U.S. passport, a set of handcuffs with key, a military certificate and a .45 caliber revolver.

I am happy to say that the passport was returned to me subsequently by an agency of the government which had discovered it in its files. Unfortunately, the laminated, wallet-size military certificate is still missing and my sister denies having received it from any source.

Concerning the .45 caliber revolver, it is the property of \_\_\_\_\_, who has executed the below certificate of ownership and request for its return.

In conjunction with your request for five dollars (\$5.00) to cover mailing charges, please find that amount enclosed herewith. I would appreciate it if you would send the handcuffs and handcuff key to Mr. Lynn also. Thank you.

Very truly,

cc: John F. Malone, ADIC, FBI, NYC

RICHARD C. NAGELL

C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-E

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT I AM THE OWNER OF THE .45 CALIBER COLT REVOLVER ADDUCED TO IN THE ABOVE CORRESPONDENCE. I REQUEST THAT SUCH WEAPON, TOGETHER WITH MR. NAGELL'S HANDCUFFS AND HANDCUFF KEY, BE FORWARDED TO ME AT YOUR CONVENIENCE.

CWL/j1

**JOSEPH A. CALAMIA**

ATTORNEY AT LAW

SUITE 608 SOUTHWEST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING  
EL PASO, TEXAS 79901

TELEPHONE 533-7425-AREA CODE 915

**JOHN L. FASHING**

ASSOCIATE

**December 13, 1968**

**Mr. Richard C. Nagell  
c/o Gambert  
82-25 Grand Avenue  
Elmhurst, L.I., New York 11373**

**Dear Mr. Nagell:**

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 21, 1968 concerning the return to you of certain items that were used in evidence against you at your trial. I have withdrawn from evidence the 45 caliber revolver and the set of handcuffs with key, and I have them in my possession. As to the other items which you mention in your letter, according to my secretary, and to the best of my recollection, these and a number of other items were sent to your sister Mrs. Gambert sometime back.

On November 27, 1968 I wrote to Mr. John F. Malone, Special Agent in Charge, FBI, 201 E. 69th Street, New York, N. Y. inquiring if he would receive the gun as you requested. To this date I have received no reply from him. Therefore, I thought it best not to send him the gun as you requested, unless he was disposed to receive it. If you want me to send this gun to its proper owner, please send me his name and address so that I may write to him asking if he is willing to receive it. Then, please send me \$5.00 to cover the mailing charges for the gun, and the handcuffs which I assume you want. Under the mailing laws, as I understand it, I must get a registered gun dealer to mail the gun for me; individuals are not permitted to send guns through the mails. If there is anything left over from the \$5.00 I will send it back to you; if there is anything owing above \$5.00 I will bill you for the difference.

I trust this letter finds you in good health. I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Very truly yours,

*Joseph A. Calamia*  
Joseph A. Calamia

JAC:hh