

340 North Lake Shore Drive
Room 404
Chicago, Illinois 60611
March 8, 1968

Mr. Bill Corley
News Director
WMAQ-TV
Merchandise Mart
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Corley:

Lou Koch suggested I contact you, and I believe he has already spoken with you about my request.

I am trying to sort out the story of a man named Thomas Vallee. Thomas Vallee was arrested by the Chicago Police Department on November 2, 1963, and charged with a minor traffic violation and carrying a concealed weapon. At the time of his arrest, Vallee had been placed under surveillance by the Chicago Police at the request of the Secret Service, prior to the late President's scheduled trip to Chicago for the Army-Air Force Football Game. When Vallee was arrested and found to have 2,000 rounds of ammunition in his car, the President's trip was canceled.

My associate, Harold Weisberg, and I have often wondered why Mr. Vallee was not included in the many investigations conducted for the Warren Commission. Nowhere in the Archives -- let alone in the 26 volumes -- is there a mention of his name. However, recently Mr. Weisberg sent me a copy of pages 8 & 9 of Warren Commission File #47: an FBI report of an interview conducted by Agents Logan and Pond with you on December 27, 1963. In the report there is no mention of Vallee, but the circumstances described can relate to no one else.

The FBI interview with you when considered by itself is harmless, but when put in context with other information I've developed on Vallee -- Chicago Police Department reports, FBI reports, belated newspaper accounts -- it raises many questions and in fact deepens the mystery of both Vallee and how the Warren Commission investigated the assassination of our president.

I would like to request an interview with you during which I would discuss the above-mentioned FBI report and any facts related to Vallee that you would be willing or able to add to what I've already learned. I expect that this would be between half an hour and an hour, and it's available at your convenience.

I stress that my purpose in speaking to you on this matter is not sensation-seeking. Perhaps there is a logical explanation for what appears to be the inconsistencies in this case; if so, I'd like to find it. As far as my own credits which might enable you to

judge my sincerity and qualifications, there are three which might be of interest to you: If you remember the mine cave-in at Hazleton, Pa. in 1963, I was the radio newsmen who had a microphone down inside the mine, which my engineer and I had dropped down there to establish a communications link between the trapped miners and the rescue teams -- in fact, we rented the roof of our mobile unit to an NBC News film crew to film the men being brought to the surface. From 1963 to 1968 I was a stringer for KDKA Radio in Pittsburgh, during which time one of my major projects was the campaign of I.W. Abel for presidency of the United Steelworkers Union -- I traveled throughout the country with his campaign and reported on it for KDKA. Last year I spent a considerable amount of time helping George Page from NBC New York prepare his program on draft resistance.

I trust I'll be hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Russ Trunzo

PHONE BI shop 7-8016

DC 10 11 (Form 7)

ADULT PROBATION DEPARTMENT
COOK COUNTY

CRIMINAL COURT BUILDING
2000 SO. CALIFORNIA AVE.
CHICAGO, ILL. 60608

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO:

Officer Masi

WILLIAM D. MEYERING
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

January 6, 1965

Honorable Gordon B. Nash, Associate Judge
The Municipal Court of Chicago
First Municipal District of the
Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois

5/8

Re: Thomas A. Vallee
Case #63MC 67333

My Dear Judge:

The above captioned person appeared before Your Honor on January 28, 1964 charged with Unlawful Use of a Weapon. The case was continued to January 6, 1965, and he was placed under the supervision of this Department, and given permission to leave the State of Illinois.

Your Probation Officer further reports to the Court that said defendant has reported regularly by mail; that he is living at 1528 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio; and that he is unemployed.

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully suggested that the Court enter such order as is deemed proper in the premise.

Respectfully yours,

William D. Meyering
Chief Probation Officer

By: *Vincent Masi*
Vincent Masi
Probation Officer

APPROVED BY:

John M. Haas
John M. Haas
Deputy Chief Probation Officer

ORDER: *Discharged*

JUDGE: *Gordon Nash*

/hj

PHONE BI shop 7-8016

DCU 217 (Form 27)

ADULT PROBATION DEPARTMENT
COOK COUNTY

CRIMINAL COURT BUILDING
2800 SO. CALIFORNIA AVE.
CHICAGO, ILL. 60608

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO:

Officer Masi

WILLIAM D. MEYERING
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

January 6, 1965

Honorable Gordon B. Nash, Associate Judge
The Municipal Court of Chicago
First Municipal District of the
Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois

file

Re: Thomas A. Vallee
Case #03MC 07333

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William D. Meyering
Chief Probation Officer

APPROVED BY:

John M. Haas
John M. Haas
Deputy Chief Probation Officer

By: *Vincent Masi*
Vincent Masi
Probation Officer

ORDER: *Discharged*

JUDGE: *Gordon Nash*

/hj

March 10, 1969

Mr. Russ Trunzo
540 North Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Dear Russ:

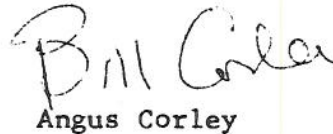
I will be happy to see you if you will call my secretary in a few days. Meantime, we will dig out the Len O'Connor script and refresh my recollection.

It was a fascinating news lead and good enough, so that even without a direct link to the President's assassination, it made a good local story. My recollection is that the FBI was active in the case only at U.S. Secret Service request and that the man was cleared of a possible tie-up.

One point we did not clear up, if my recollection is correct, was whether or not he might have served with Oswald in the Marines overseas.

At any rate, I will be glad to talk with you.

Sincerely,


Angus Corley

AC/yp

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service
Washington, D.C. 20408



DATE: March 5, 1960

REPLY TO: RMD

SUBJECT: Records of the Warren Commission. (our letter of February 25, 1960).

Commission Document 1130 and documents containing the name of Thomas Vallee are withheld from research at the request of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

An examination of pertinent records of the Commission has disclosed no interviews or other information for Marvin Sherzer or Scherzer and Arthur B. Fox.

Additional funds will be needed to comply with your order for electrostatic copies of 61 documents listed in the above dated letter. As of this date you have only \$4.45 in your deposit account. Your new order for electrostatic copies will be \$12.20, so there will be a shortage of \$7.75.

To order please send check or money order for \$7.75, payable to the Cashier, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D.C. 20408.

Sincerely,

Mark G. Eckhoff

MARK G. ECKHOFF
Director
Diplomatic, Legal, and
Fiscal Records Division

This is copy you sent me with name removed - I taped it on paper to prevent tearing. Russ