

David Belin; Roger Craig's Diary; Mary Ferrell, Penn Jones et al; Bill Bowley;
Early JFK, Tippit Killings accounts.

Just as I was going to bed last night I received a phone call from Mrs. Rita Nusgrove, 520 Walnut, New London, Iowa, 53645. 319/367-5952; off 355-3195.

The immediate purpose of her call was an invitation from Penn Jones to go to Dallas on the 17th for a showing by Gordon of the films he usually shows plus Rush to Judgment. Because Rita was finished with the whole Dallas gang except Craig and had told them so pointedly, especially Penn, she was surprised and is not going. Penn persisted, which worried her more because of violence and violent talk from him in the past. On one occasion when she was staying with the Craigs (divorced two years ago), when Roger provided bodyguards all the way to the airport (She had been beaten up at the airport once, losing teeth, etc. she says.)

She quotes Penn as saying Roger suicide four months ago (all this from memory-taped when I saw what she was going into).

Roger kept a diary. She has it, Penn wants it, and Roger wanted him not to have it and regarded it as cause for his own killing. She read parts to me, the reason being the way I come across in my writing. She is on our mailing list.

I told her how to check out with Paul Rethermal whether or not Roger is dead. She has duplicated the diary out of her possession.

Her details of this whole odd bunch are consistent with what I know except for the violence and for Penn's insistences.

This can't be complete, from memory, and because I have to go to DC.

Bowley is selling tapes of his personal conversations with Garrison. He sold one dealing with Jim Ross to Mary for \$16. He appears to have taped all these kinds of conversations. I know he has some because I have a copy of another with Nancy Ferrin. (This part of the story also in the diary. Craig stole Ferrin's criminal record. It was for Penn but appears to be what Bowley told me he had obtained in Colorado.)

Roger also stole police radio tapes-three channels. 18" reels.

Many details about police, sheriff inside, irrelevant Ruby details after hailing, Decker and what Craig says happened to him and how, with names and dates.

Craig appears to have started keeping this diary for his son the day before JFK was due to arrive simply because it was so unusual to see a President.

Her reading of some of the early passages is entirely consistent with his testimony: except for what was omitted and what he did not add when he "corrected" it as printed at Maggie Field's.

What struck me as most important were new details of the finding of the shells and rifle and the time those at the TSEB learned about the Tippit killing. Roger looked at his watch. It was 1:06. This is entirely consistent with the Bowley affidavit, ignored by the Commission/Belin in person and particular.

Different Buddy Walther's story than I get from Hudkins; inference he was killed by partner rather than man he was sent to pick up. Repeats what logs show, first Tippit shell (he says all) automatics. Rifle shells all lifted up as found, suspicious to him at time.

Penn had told me of efforts to kill Roger. I don't recall details. Diary has two different ones, one in which man with whom he had appointment that was watched was killed while standing next to him.

I told her my areas doubts Roger and about when they begin. His diary shows first contact from Garrison via Penn, etc. He wound up hating them all.

Total about 70 pages.

Marguerite Oswald her friend, claims to have 16 more letters from LEO, Wink.

"Old man" W.C. Thompson dead. Penn bought his library.

Several visits from W.C. attorney Parkerson beginning August 1966, I think to Craig. Craig's account station wagon he saw has # La. license, not Ruth Kaine's.

Arrested woman brown station wagon knoll park lot. Rita has picture of woman running down tracks, not dated. Also Roger puts names back-tramp pix. She is to xerox both sides for me.

Mrs. Craig remarried. Knows how to reach his mother. If dead does not know who has his records, tapes, etc.

Rita going to Dallas again soon, to see Marguerite, who wants \$40,000 for letters. Account how Lennie Lewis took those picked up to sheriff's office. Includes how Rowlands spotted, this station-wagon woman and other deputies named.

Bill Decker told all his men to be on hand, visibly and looking sharp but not to have any part in Presidential protection.

Mary Decker stories, all casting suspicion on kind man he was, connections, etc.

Reville (unsuccessful) "Republican opponent of his successor, Jones.

Dent throat rifle shell noted immediately and suspected, as was alignment.

Details Craig's account stationwagon picking "Oswald" up, comparisons between 12:45 pictures shown by Sprague and arrests pictures, comparisons with Tippit killer description clothing and what this driver was wearing. Inference same man who drove station wagon that picked LHO up.

Quotes "arion" maker as say it was 12:35 when he saw LHO.

I asked her in references to Sweatt, who handled evidence. She said yes but read none.

Observations attributed to Rowlands exactly as they testified.

There may well be other details I can't remember. Tired when she called. Connection poor. She called back without such improvement. Don't know how clear tape is.

The character of these strange Dallas people is consistent with what I know, except that she dislikes them more and has more specifics from an entirely different kind of relationship. She has suspicions about Buck. Had been told by Penn that both Ferrallá Minutemen. She is tougher on Mary than I would be.

She has also has her own notes. These include visits from Boxley as late as 1971 or 1972.

Mentioned Snakston several times. Forget context.

After she broke from Penn he phoned her at Craig and said he was coming over, insisting that she meet him outside. She refused, he said he was coming and hung up. This is when Roger called and got bodyguards, one who stayed outside and one in house, who took her to Love Field next day. This is not time she was beaten up there. While this seems farout there was nothing in the way she spoke or what she said to cast any doubt on her rationality. And despite the doubts I developed about Craig, of which I told her, there were many points of confirmation.

In her account Mary controls them all. She says Kishbrough dying of cancer.

It does seem strange that Penn would insist, politely, on her coming to see Groden films when she repulsed and insulted him. But much about Penn seems strange. Craig grew to dislike and distrust him and others.

Craig thought Kishbrough CIA agent. Mary servile to Kishbrough (money reason?)

Slight references to Chapman, Sus Fitch. Some mob references, connection threat vs Craig and how officials delayed serving papers until people able to pay. Inferences or allegations about who knew Ruby and Decker's strong opposition to anyone talking to Eva.

Wichita Falls sheriff refused to accept Ruby because he looked so sick. The doctor who saw Ruby and said he had cold was a shrink. Cold story what Wertz told me. Rest not consistent Gertz' story.

Picture thoroughly authoritarian sheriff and sheriff's dept with Walthers getting away with everything short of murder, including having and bribing with pills, having stolen property, etc and getting away with all. Including drunkenness, offensive behavior.

Buddy said to have been killed (inference by partner) when he was expected to be called to H.O. It was before Shaw trial. I in Dallas day it happened, got Wade's account. I see no reason to fear his going to H.O. unless Dallasites did not know Garrison. Buddy refused to talk about "45" picture or man in it with him. Or finding "45." Why unclear. At that time I had H.O. radio reporter talk to him by phone and Walthers was responsive. (Re Liebeler memo on questioning Walthers.)

Rita seems of very good intelligence and gave no indication of interest in nut staff. She appears to have eventually seens through the Dallasites although she began friendly with Mary and lived and worked with her for several days.

12/1/67

Dear Mr. Thompson,

Many thanks for your fascinating letter of 11/27.

Wink Thompson is a literary kleptomaniac who blends in his crooked character limitless irresponsibility and colossal ego. In short, he is a clever, dangerous fink. He has come up with a formula that is entirely false where it is worse than conjecture and has the possibility of accumulating great wealth from it. He has a formula that is in support of each of the major official conclusions, if you read him carefully (from the Post and a long broadcast - heard him make).

You are the second one in two days who, each by a different method, proved his so-called science is witchcraft. I'm glad to get it.

I think I'd better forget the Polaroid copier. I have no time to take picture now and think the solution you reached for yourself is the best for me. If you ever see one that is not too expensive, I'd like to have it, but I cannot begin to think of going into that price range. I'm more than \$30,000 in debt now.

University Book is Lyle Stuart. "We are Controlled", on this aspect, is plain trash, awful stuff. I do not know about the rest of the content. I'd like a copy of your bibliography sometime.

Thompson missed nothing. He ignored what didn't suit his scheme. He lifted an awful lot from me.

I'd sure like a copy of Sun's book. It was, actually, the second abroad. Savage's was published, I believe, that March in France and in French.

If you seen any more errors in Oswald in New Orleans, please tell me about them. I haven't had a chance to read it since it was published. The printing was hasty and there are many errors.

On your questions I read your letters with great interest, but the shorter they are the more time I can spend on other things. Reading and answering my mail and I try and answer every letter is time consuming, particularly because I still try and keep everything else going.

The documents on Oswald in New Orleans will be published if there is enough sale for the book in this form to justify the risk of an expensive edition, some page size was my printings, which would permit photographic reproduction of the documents. If not, at the moment Xeroxing is beyond my capacity. I have loaned a set to others working in the field from which they have made working copies. I have the appendix done and if nothing else, I believe it will end up with all my work in a University archive.

"Seed Of Doubt" is the name of an article published in the New Republic right after the Report was issued. They may still have copies. Their address is 19th and N Sts., NW, Washington, D.C. I have a copy but God knows how I could now dig it out. If you fail in the easier ways, I'll gladly photocopy mine for you when I can look for it.

The Minority of One is a magazine edited by a man who is the victim of Nazi concentration camps, is quite egocentric and opinionated, and very brave. He is currently engaged in trying to clobber all of us who think Garrison should be let alone. His

address is Box 544, Passaic, N.J. He has published chapters of what is now out as Sylvia Meagher's book (or will be out in a few days). He has published articles by Vincent Selendria, a lawyer whose address is 2226 Delancey Place, Phila., Pa. Harold Feldman is Selendria's brother-in-law. He wrote an article for Liberation on what I call the voting-witness theory (I am confident he is right but I think this is less than the most credible approach). It is he who counted what the witnesses said of the source of the shots. Lane used his stuff on this.

Copies of the four-hour CBS show were available from CBS, New York. I believe the street address is 524 West 57. It is also CBS News. They had either Xeroxed or mimeographed copies made. I have a set, if you cannot get it any other way. However, I like to keep my copy close. Ask for it for your collection first. There is usually no charge.

Thanks for your kindnesses. Please tolerate the haste that results in the typographical errors I hope you can make out.

Sincerely,

Harold Meisberg