

## Dallas Civil Liberties Union

Affiliated with American Civil Liberties Union

P. O. BOX ~~2437~~ — Dallas, Texas

January 6, 1964

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I am writing in response to concerns arising from a story published in the New York Times of Dec 21 on the status of Mrs Lee H Oswald since the arrest and death of her husband. The Times story centered on the theme that perhaps Mrs Oswald is being held incommunicado.

The national office of the American Civil Liberties Union in New York City has received a considerable number of inquiries about the status of Mrs Oswald. In response to this, the ACLU office contacted me as president of its Dallas affiliate, asking if I could determine the exact nature of the situation.

I called the Secret Service office and talked with a Mr Patterson, who assured me Mrs Oswald is free to come and go as she pleases. Asking them to see her, I was told to contact John Thorne, her attorney.

I called Mr Thorne and outlined the substance of the Times story. He replied he was perfectly satisfied with Mrs Oswald's status.

Hoping to arrange an interview with Mrs Oswald, I called Mrs Rut Paine, whom I understand is a good friend of Mrs Oswald's. Mrs Paine tells me she hasn't seen Mrs Oswald since Nov 25, has received a Christmas greeting from her, but nothing directly in reply to several letters to her.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT 331

To clear up the confusion concerning Mrs Oswald's present status, may I request a brief meeting with her. I assure I shall discuss only her present status.

I would ask too the permission for Mrs Paine to accompany me as an interpreter. I suggest the interview be made as brief and as informal as possible. I want Mrs Oswald to speak as frankly as she can about her agreeing to the security measures that seem to surround her now and about her present situation generally.

I hope I make it clear there are no personal doubts about the competence of Mr Oswald's advisers. The request I make is in response to confusion about Mrs Oswald's status.

The Dallas Civil Liberties Union board of directors will meet later this week. May I hear from you no later than Thursday?

Sincerely

*Greg Olds*

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Commission Exhibit No. 331

COMMISSION EXHIBIT 331—Continued