

Gerard Selby
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Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

10/24/91

Dear Whip,

Thanks for your 10/21 and the enclosures.

I met Joe Oster once, just long enough to be introduced to him.

The last graf of the LAtimes story edges toward what I'd heard about Stone's anxiety to get his movie out: he hoped for another Oscar.

In March Edginton told you he'd like to talk to me. Aside from the ^{many} months before then he's had half a year and he hasn't tried. *He did not want to.*

The "inaccuracies" in the Covert Action article were anything but "very small."

I do not recall whether I sent him a copy of my letter to them, as I think I did, or they did.

But that was a reminder, if he wanted to talk to me.

He won't. He probably thinks I'd tell him, "I told you so." Ordinarily I don't but perhaps to him, *Now, I might!*

As I think I told you, when he was here I refused to be interviewed or filmed until he gave me his assurances that he would not "solve" the crime. He gave me that assurance, and he asked me why. I explained it in some detail.

I did believe him, and I believed Nigel Turner, of whom I requested the same assurance as a condition of talking to him.

While I did not know that they would do what they did, I heard from Sargeant often when they were in Memphis and all he checked was nutty theories. I spent hours on the phone trying to steer them away from all those slippery curves all those who lust to do something big find so attractive.

I have not looked at any of Turner's expansion on A & E. Jerry has cable and to the best of my knowledge he hasn't, either. So I not only don't know what is in it, I do not believe there will be anything worthwhile in it. He sent a letter to many people, writing the names at the top. He referred in it to seeing the fifth one. He did not say why.

10/26. Glad to have the transcripts. Good work! Thanks. Feeling under Otwood, name of the Johns' production ^{company.} ~~company.~~

I presume you've seen Manson's piece in Esquire. Fellow named Seal is doing one for I think The Texas Observer and Charles Freund for McCall's, this one probably mostly on the theories. Also LIFE will have one in December....To give you an idea of what kind of people Edginton and Sargeant are I sent them the CIA records disproving Melanson's crap about Kimble and I asked them, when my vision was so bad, about the lap computer on which Sargeant took notes. No response to either and had they taken hours of my time! And they still used Kimble and Melanson. ...I'd like to read Stone's shooting script and to have it on file. I don't now think I'd make a careful comparison to see all they dropped that was so awful, like those Cubanos holding Ferris's head in the toilet by his hair, of which he had not a single one on his body....Thanks and best to you both,

Harold

October 21, 1991

Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, MD 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

I've enclosed the transcripts of the telephone conversations I had with John Edginton and Joseph Oster regarding Jules Ricco Kimble. Please note that the transcripts, while verbatim, are also selective, i.e. I transcribed only the relevant portions and not the entire conversation (this is especially true of the Oster conversation).

I've also sent the *Los Angeles Times* story regarding the release date for Stone's movie. I should also tell you that the producer who I'm working for on the Leonard Peltier movie told me that he thinks he can get a copy of the final shooting script for the Stone movie. If it happens, I will send you a copy immediately.

Hope you and Lil are doing well. Sandy and I are looking forward to seeing you when we come home in December.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be the name 'Chip'.

Chip

SELBY/EDGINTON TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

March 27, 1991

EDGINTON: Hello?

SELBY: Hello. Can I speak to John Edginton please?

EDGINTON: Yes. This is him.

SELBY: Mr. Edginton, my name is Chip Selby. I'm a researcher doing some work on the Martin Luther King assassination.

EDGINTON: Oh, right.

SELBY: And I was wondering if I could...

EDGINTON: How did you find me in this hotel in Dallas?

SELBY: I tracked you down to your house in England and I guess I talked to your wife.

EDGINTON: Oh, right.

SELBY: And she gave me your phone number where you were going to be staying.

EDGINTON: Okay.

SELBY: I wanted to ask you a couple of questions about your documentary.

EDGINTON: What--what are you doing? You're researching...

SELBY: The King assassination.

EDGINTON: For--for what?

SELBY: Well, I think for a book. I'm not sure. I'm just--right now I'm just starting to get in to all of it. And I'm very interested in your documentary, in particular the story about Jules Ricco Kimble.

EDGINTON: Yeah.

SELBY: And I was wondering if, in your research, you ever found any outside corroboration for Kimble's story.

EDGINTON: Hold on, let me just turn down this television.

SELBY: Okay.

EDGINTON: Hi.

SELBY: Hi.

EDGINTON: Well I--my policy is to be pretty careful about who I talk to about this, which I'm sure you can understand. Because I have had calls from different people who turned out not to be who they said they were.

SELBY: Right.

EDGINTON: So once bitten, twice shy. (Unintelligible)...So I have to be careful. And so I would rather, if possible, meet with you and discuss it or at least see some kind of corroborative documentation which shows your credibility.

SELBY: Okay. Well if you want to you can talk to Jim Lesar. I know that--

EDGINTON: Oh, right.

SELBY: --you--I don't know if you talked with him personally, or--

EDGINTON: Yes, I did.

SELBY: In fact, he represented me in a lawsuit that I had regarding the Kennedy assassination. I did a documentary when I was in school and he represented me in a lawsuit against Henry Zapruder, who is the heir to Abraham Zapruder--his son actually and had the rights to the Zapruder film.

EDGINTON: Oh, yeah. You used the film in your documentary?

SELBY: Yes. And he wanted an outrageous amount of money to use it.

EDGINTON: So you sued him?

SELBY: Yes. I was a student at the University of Maryland. So Jim represented me. And I've talked to him a lot about the case and also with Harold Weisberg and Bud Fensterwald. I know you interviewed Harold.

EDGINTON: Yeah. Harold has a very low opinion of the documentary.

SELBY: Yes, he does.

EDGINTON: He told you that?

SELBY: Yes, he did. He did.

EDGINTON: Yeah. Which really hurt me. I'd like to talk to him about it sometime because I think he--he...I think--I don't think he actually saw the documentary, he read the article--

SELBY: Yeah, he did--No he, he--

EDGINTON: He saw it?

SELBY: Yeah.

EDGINTON: I thought he'd--maybe he'd made his comments on the article in...in the Covert Action. Which had a number of inaccuracies.

SELBY: Really? I thought that you wrote--did you write it?

EDGINTON: Yes, but it did have a number of inaccuracies in it which were very small inaccuracies.

SELBY: Right.

EDGINTON: Which Harold (unintelligible), quite rightly. But the overall scope of the article was (unintelligible). I was slightly upset that he didn't give it more credence. I think--I was wondering--he said we didn't acknowledge him, his work which he (unintelligible). We certainly acknowledged him in the film with quite a good, good--well a strong description of him as a major, major figure. (Unintelligible) I know that he doesn't agree with Kimble's story.

SELBY: Well, I'll tell you, to be quite honest with you, Harold and I have talked about it somewhat, and I've done some of my own research into it too and--the reason I asked if there was any corroboration for Kimble's story is that some of the things that he says are contrary to--or, I should say, at odds with facts that were--that are well known and documented. I mean, he says--Kimble says he flew Ray from Atlanta to Montreal in July of '67 prior to Ray's meeting with Raoul.

EDGINTON: Yeah.

SELBY: Or meeting up with Raoul in Montreal. And that just doesn't seem to make any sense because--I can't figure out number one: why Ray would go to Atlanta to meet up with Kimble, for Kimble to fly him then; plus that fact that Ray bought a car on July 14th, which is just four days before he gets to Montreal. And he buys this '62 Plymouth for two hundred dollars from a used car dealer in East St. Louis, Illinois and he gets there and the car gets there at the same time. And I'm curious as to how he could buy this car and then drive to Atlanta, and then be flown to Montreal by Kimble--the question then is how did his car get there? And I was wondering if you were aware of those facts.

EDGINTON: Yes.

SELBY: Well, is there--

EDGINTON: There are more facts as well which I am aware of.

SELBY: Did--that get around that problem?

EDGINTON: (Unintelligible)

SELBY: Really? And what motive would Ray have for driving to Atlanta?

EDGINTON: (Unintelligible)...Kimble. There's only a very small window of time from when Kimble was released from prison in New Orleans--or released from--he was, he was in a--in court. He was bailed out. And then--I forget how many days later (unintelligible) and 6 or 7 days later he's back in New Orleans again. And, and every other aspect of his time in July is documented, except for that 6 or 7 days. And when you look at it closely, my initial feeling about it was yeah, it could have made it up--

SELBY: Kimble could have? I'm sorry, that Kible could have... ←

EDGINTON: Could have made it up to Montreal and made it back again.

SELBY: Well that certainly seems possible--

EDGINTON: Yeah, it does.

SELBY: --but I can't understand how Ray could drive from East St. Louis, Illinois--he buys the car on the 14th, he's in Montreal on the 18th. He could certainly drive to Atlanta, but if he drove to Atlanta and was flown to Montreal by Kimble, then how did his car get to Montreal?

EDGINTON: Well, there were several questions about whether Ray drove to Atlanta or flew there.

SELBY: Well, in any--I mean, he could have--if he flew from Illinois to Atlanta and then Atlanta to Montreal, that still doesn't answer the question of how his car got from Illinois to Montreal.

EDGINTON: Sure

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EDGINTON: ...we know that [Kimble] was a pilot. We checked that out. We know that he went to Montreal several times during that year...

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SELBY: Did you know that Ray had purchased this car?

EDGINTON: Uh, yeah, I think it's in one of the early books...

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH JOSEPH OSTER

April 4, 1991

OSTER: ...Kimble's kind of a funny guy. He's a liar...

* * * * *

OSTER: I was chairman of the state polygraph board here in Louisiana. I told John that I would give him a polygraph - or have someone polygraph him that I know is competent.

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OSTER: [Kimble] lies a great deal.

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SELBY: I'll be honest with you. I don't believe Kimble's story.

OSTER: I don't either.

* * * * *

OSTER: First of all, Jules Ricco Kimble is not a pilot.

SELBY: He's not?

OSTER: No, sir. If he is, he just became one because back then, I checked with the FAA in Oklahoma City and they had no pilot's license for Jules Ricco Kimble.

SELBY: Really?

OSTER: Yeah. Kimble's a liar in a lot of things.

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OSTER: I have never really believed that [Kimble] was involved in the killing of Dr. Martin Luther King...I think that he was trying to get the publicity.

* * * * *

OSTER: He was capable of doing it. But did he do it? I doubt it seriously.

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OSTER: But when John [Edginton] asked me about him flying, that was the straw that kind of broke the camel's back because I know Kimble. Kimble has never piloted a plane as far as I know.

SELBY: Did you tell him that. Did you tell John that?

OSTER: Why, yes.

* * * * *

SELBY: ...Kimble then also admitted that he flew the two actual snipers into Memphis a couple of days before the assassination.

OSTER: I think that's BS.