

12/29/74

Dear Henry Durkin,

When I worked on a morning newspapers during what used to be called The Great Depression I ate and drank (the latter to excess) in a fine Greek restaurant run by a fine Greek patriot and I ran a tab that I settled with each paycheck. I took it to Tom as soon as I got it, he took what was coming to me and gave me the little that remained.

Once Tom, who worked the night shift (meaning all night), got sick, and a friend or relative unknown to me took his place. He did not like the way I signed the check, so he insisted that I cross that out and sign it so he could read it.

Under protest, and with ample warning, I did. The check bounced, of course. So I have had an experience with banks and signatures that, would I not have taken your word anyway, would have been persuasive.

However, you display the insensitivity of the self-righteous, all-knowing in believing that I wrote you in anger ("I can understand your anger about having been 'ripped off'...") I was needling you. If it was too obscure, believe me I was not angry. I did not really believe that you would deliberately send me a bad check. From what I have seen of your thinking, I had no trouble believing it extended to your bookkeeping.

and "outrage at an apparent rubber check.")

However, let us go back to your propoganda in what calls itself The New Guard but is neither "new" nor a "guard."

You then had no concern with fact or truth. You had an ax to grind and if it meant chopping up the truth and butchering fact to the end that you could believe the dishonesty you put on paper and published, why let honesty get in the way?

You had belief; that was more than enough for you.

There need be no fidelity in your writing if it said what you wanted to say. And what you did say was no more than propoganda.

You took much of my time for no reason at all. You paid no attention. And I did tell you the truth.

This waste of time was more abusive than a bad check no matter how innocently it was not a good check.

The problem with ~~some~~ men like you who hew a line regardless is that you contort everything to fir the preconception. What the Warren Commission did.

Well, if Martin Dies went to his just reward, pity him.

And if your boy Nixon who was so faithfully served by so many of your fellow believers, felons charged and uncharged, ever goes to his earned one, Lucifer will be earning time and a half.

These belief you and yours have been spouting have had a chance. (Of course, once they failed they were not the true belief.) So did the men to your preference.

God save the country! I don't think that what has been done to it can be undone by any non-celestial power.

Then there is this true belief as collated by your boy Huston. He wasn't charged but what he did was more genuinely subversive than what the crooks did.

I really was hoping to prod you into meditating the difference between talk and deed.

You kid yourself, young Mr. McKinley. As when you close, "Conservatives like to save money." When you put on a show with a printed "Speed Message" - two-color yet - where the kind of cheap paper I use would suffice?

Not without^f hope,

SPEED MESSAGE

TO Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 8
Frederick, Md 21701

FROM Henry P. Durkin
Box 74
Westfield NJ 07090

SUBJECT

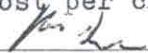
DATE 12-26-74 19

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

My letter of December 17th must not have reached you when you wrote yours of the 19th.

Xerox copy of Bank's notification to me about the signature not matching enclosed, with copy of the check you returned to me to which is attached the Bank's slip about insufficient funds.

I'm sorry about the inconvenience...particularly when the Bank reports two different circumstances. The funds were not insufficient and it really was a signature problem. New signature cards have been received and signed and returned to the bank. All should now be in order and hence here is another check for \$6.25. If this one causes trouble, I'll start an account with another bank which knows what it's supposed to be doing.

I can understand your anger about having been "ripped off" but since that was ~~and is not~~ the case, let me just say that if it had not been for the people in the Bank who decided to pick this one check (and others they didn't touch---even though the signature didn't match the last detail of the handwriting in their files) to question...none of this unpleasantness would have arisen. No need to apologize---you acted honestly in expressing your disappointment and outrage at an apparent rubber check. P.S. I use the bank because there's no monthly charge or cost per check. ~~Conservative~~ like to save money. SIGNED Kindest regards, 

THE NEW BOSTON BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

APPROVED *[Signature]*

Dorchester, Mass., *December 19, 1974*

WE HAVE CREDITED YOUR ACCOUNT FOR REASON OR REASONS INDICATED BELOW

FOR *Signature does not match*
on ch # 140

ACCT. NO. *02 005 825*

TOTAL AMOUNT OF CREDIT

<i>6.25</i>
<i>6.25</i>

CREDIT *Henry P. Durkin* T. C.

RETURNED BY
THE NEW BOSTON BANK AND TRUST COMPANY
5-145/110
BOSTON, MASS.

RETURNED UNPAID FOR REASON INDICATED:

- INSUFFICIENT FUNDS
- ENDORSEMENT
- MISSING
- NOT AS DRAWN
- WRONG BANK
- SIGNATURE
- UNCOLLECTED FUNDS
- OTHER REASON (SPECIFY)

DATE *December 5 19 74* No. *140* 5-145/110

Leisberg \$ *6.25*

*****25/100***** DOLLARS

DN BANK HENRY P. DURKIN
TON, MASSACHUSETTS

[Signature] *65.26*

02005825 0000000625

SPEED MESSAGE

TO Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 8
Frederick, MD 21701

FROM Henry P. Durkin
Box 74
Westfield, N. J. 07090

SUBJECT _____

DATE December 17, 1974

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I just received a note from my bank saying that my check to you of \$6.25 did not clear because the signature on it did not match my recorded signature. I just called the bank in Boston and they informed me that the check was sent back to you. I explained that my handwriting had changed over the years and they are sending me a new signature card so that their files will match the handwriting on the checks.

Therefore, please redeposit the check in about a week from the time you get this letter. I should have received the new signature card from the bank and returned it to them.

Apologies for the problem. The check is good but the handwriting is bad.

Best wishes for the holidays.



SIGNED _____

Box 74
Westfield N.J.

