

John Kaufman
6 Maple St.,
Gardner, MA 01440

1/5/92

Dear John,

Lil smiled in pleasure at your recollection of when you were so young and visited us and that you remember all the cats who at their greatest volume numbered 29 at one time. She was very fond of you.

You write of Stone with such accuracy, keen observation and understanding, that I wonder if you ever had any dealings with him.

In the past not quite a year he had demonstrated to me all that you say and that includes what I've not seen in the course of compiling for history a file now about ten inches thick.

Your father would be so proud. As he indicated ~~me~~ to me soon after we first met, he left "ollywood because of its dishonesty and corruption. He had a good start there as I recall, as an assistant to Walter Wanger.

Stone is keeping me busier than I've kept him because he has minions who do much of what comes out under his name, so this has to be brief. I've not yet caught up with letters here two days before yours. I've a few moments before lunch and do not want it disappear in one of the stacks on the desk at which I have to sit sideways, which helps things disappear.

This is a copy of one of the things in a stack of articles I've not yet finished going over.

I have to be briefer in answer to your questions than I'd like to be.

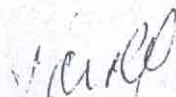
There is no way of knowing who killed JFK because there never was an real official investigation of the crime itself and none was ever intended. I have this in high-level and operating levels in the DJ and FBI. Not know who, we do not know why.

There was a time when I believed we might be able to figure this out by evaluating who considered his assassination would benefit him. Later I realized there are just too many and the best that can be done with this approach is to eliminate.

You ask ~~me~~ about the relationship between Oswald, Ruby (none) the CIA, the mafia and others. There is reason to suspect that Oswald may have had some intelligence connection but other than that, none of the widely believed rumors are established. Ruby was a thug but not mafia.

We hope you have a good year, all your family, and I'd like news of them when you have time.

Sincerely,



John P. Kaufman
6 Maple Street
Gardner, MA 01440

Dec/28/1991

DEAR HAROLD,

JUST GOT YOUR LETTER. IT SURE IS NICE TO BE BACK IN TOUCH. IF I AM IN THE WASHINGTON DC. AREA - I WILL BE SURE TO CALL AND - HOPEFULLY - VISIT FOR A LITTLE WHILE. YOU TWO ARE SOME OF MY FAVORITE FOIKS, AFTER ALL.

I ESPECIALLY AM REMINDED OF LIL NOW AS I SIT AND TRY TO WRITE THIS AMIDST THE PATER OF TWELVE TINY FEET - FOR I HAVE ADOPTED THREE KITTENS. ANIMALS ARE GOOD TO BE AMOUNGST - FOR THEY REMIND YOU THAT HUMANS ARE BUT ONE PART OF AN EVER - GROWING UNIVERSE, THESE THREE THINK MY TINY APARTMENT IS A BIG PLAYGROUND - COMPLETE WITH JUNGLE JIM AND SWING SET! HOW CAN SOMEONE THAT SMALL MAKE SO MUCH NOISE?

OLIVER STONE IS DANGEROUS FOR SEVERAL REASONS. FIRST OF ALL - AS A FILM DIRECTOR - HE IS QUITE GOOD. HIS TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE OF HOW TO TELL A STORY IS ACUTE. STONE - AS A WRITER - IS BLUNT. HE PRESENTS CHARACTORS WHO SYMBOLIZE IDEAS. IF HE WAS A LOUSY HACK - HE WOULD BE EASY TO DISMISS, AS IT IS - HE IS FINANCIALLY

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SUCCESSFUL. IN HOLLYWOOD - SUCCESS BREEDS POWER AND THE ABILITY TO CREATE MORE WORK. IN STONE'S CASE - THIS MEANS FREEDOM TO DISTORT HISTORY TO AN EVER - GREATER EXTENT.

SECONDLY, STONE IS DANGEROUS BECAUSE HE UNDERSTANDS THE MEDIA (TV, PRINT, RADIO) AND REALIZES HOW TO USE IT TO HIS BEST ADVANTAGE. HE HAS UNLIMITED ACCESS TO TV AND PRINT AND NEVER FAILS TO GAIN MAXIMUM EXPOSURE FOR HIS VARIOUS DOINGS.

THE OLIVER STONE SITUATION REMINDS ME OF THE CASE OF GERMAN FILMAKER LEVI REIFENSTAHL. SHE WAS A FILMAKER OF ORIGINALITY AND POWER WHOSE WORK IS STILL STUDIED BY FILM STUDENTS AS A PRIME EXAMPLE OF DOCUMENTARY EXCELLENCE. YET REIFENSTAHL'S MOST FAMOUS WORKS ARE THE TRIUMPH OF THE WILL AND OLYMPIAD WHICH ARE PRO-HITLER PROPAGANDA PIECES. GREAT, CREATIVE TALENT USED TO BAD PURPOSE IS VERY, VERY DANGEROUS.

WHILE STONE'S PLATOON AND SALVADOR ARE WELL MADE FILMS - WITHIN THEM - HISTORY IS BADLY SERVED. I GREW UP IN THE SIXTIES - AND

FOLLOWED THE ROCK MUSIC SCENE WITH GREAT INTEREST. STONE'S PREVIOUS MOVIE: THE DOORS IS A TISSUE OF LIES AND DISTORTIONS. HE CREATED A SENSATIONALISTIC DIATRIBE IN THE GUISE OF "PRESENTING HISTORY" AND MUDDIED THE WATERS OF TRUTH WITH HIS PREVARICATIONS.

OLIVER STONE CARES LITTLE FOR HISTORY. HIS CAREER IS A STUDY IN OPPORTUNISM. HE TAKES "BIG ISSUES" AND USES THEM TO ADVANCE HIS CAREER. HE NO MORE CARES ABOUT THE TRUTH OF VIETNAM (PLATOON), CENTRAL AMERICA (SALVADOR), THE ANTI-WAR MOVEMENT (BORN ON THE 4TH OF JULY) OR THE TRAGIC LOSS OF A PRESIDENT (JFK) THAN HE DOES ABOUT THE TRUTH OF HIS OWN LIFE WHICH HE CONSTANTLY RE-WRITES TO SUIT THE OCCASION.

STONE - IN REALITY - BELIEVES THE WORDS OF GORON GEEKO - HERO OF HIS FILM WALL STREET: "GREED - FOR LACK OF A BETTER WORD - IS GOOD." THAT IS WHAT MR. STONE IS REALLY ALL ABOUT.

I DON'T THINK OF YOU AS AN "ASSASSINATION BUFF". I THINK OF YOU AS A HISTORICAL RESEARCHER TRYING TO PROVIDE CLUES INTO THE TRUTH OF THE

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FOULTEST DEED IN RECENT AMERICAN HISTORY.
IN YEARS TO COME - AFTER OLIVER STONE'S WORK
IS LEFT ON A DUSTY SHELF OF SOME FILM LIBRARY -
YOUR DEDICATED - AGAINST ALL ODDS - QUEST FOR
TRUTH - WILL BE SEEN AS A VALUABLE SERVICE
PERFORMED FOR ALL OF US.

HAROLD, I HAVE TO ASK THREE SIMPLE QUESTIONS?

1. TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE - WHO
KILLED PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY?
2. WHY?
3. WHAT DO YOU KNOW OF THE REAL RELATIONSHIP
OF OSWALD, RUBY, THE CIA, THE MAFIA AND
OTHERS NOW SUSPECTED OF TAKING PART IN THE
MURDER OF THE PRESIDENT?

ARE THERE ANY CLEAR ANSWERS?

WILL WE EVER KNOW THE TRUTH?

MY BEST TO YOU AND LIL. AS I SAID - AT
THE BEGINNING OF THIS LETTER - IT SURE IS
NICE TO BE BACK IN TOUCH.

John P. Kaufman
6 Maple Street
Gardner, MA 01440

Sincerely,
John