

Dear Phil,

3/14/77

Just home from day in DC working on lawsuits. Your three mailings clip valuable, thanks.

To the best of my knowledge Ray has not fired Lesar.

For your story I believe Ray's vision is irrelevant in the absence of some proof that he was there. But on his vision, my recollection is not dependable. I believe it is that he has glasses for reading only. If he had to wear glasses then there could be a conflict with a scope, from my own experience when I farmed and had to shoot snapping turtles from a distance. I never could set the scope right and finally got rid of that rifle.

First two Kershaw points bullshit. Do you have a tape of the radio interview? I'd welcome all of them possible because to this moment the best that can be said for him is that what he is doing is dubious.

Pro se civil action not really pro se and is Jerry.

Everybody claims to have been the last to speak to King. However, I know that King told Branch the music he wanted and I'm pretty sure that at about the same time he said a few words to "ones about leaving. There was also one called "baby Jesus" there. "now who he is? And Abernathy swears King tried to speak to him after he was felled. I don't believe it but I'm sure Abernathy does.

Don't know whom Kershaw's sources are but I'd not trust anyone on the Tennessean. The deal is going to be Jimmy was the assassin and Jerry was Raoul and maybe that J.B. Stoner was in on it. I have no reason to believe any part of it.

I think Wayne's recall would probably be best on Branch.

There has been some badmouthing of Lesar in Memphis. It is baseless, which makes me very interested. If you know anything I'd like to know. If you don't could you ask Livingston if he's heard any reports? Don't tell him it is for me because he is mad at me over my pressures over his insanities. I never saw a man blow a great opportunity like Bob did. He'd have been a local hero and a wealthy man.

Many ~~times~~ thanks,

PO Box 4803
Memphis TN 38104

March 10/77

Dear Harold,

Thanks for your letter of the 8th. I appreciate the background on Kershaw. Your remarks about his ambulance-chasing and his rectitude are revealing. To me, he is also acting like an amateur about the whole investigation. Certainly he should have gotten in touch with you. On radio today, he claims he has two prime informants, one of them a "reliable newsman." Wayne says it's not he; he doesn't know Kershaw. Could be somebody like my acquaintance, Jerry Thompson, at the Tennessean.

Also on radio, Kershaw cited 3 points that interest him:

1. Solomon Jones has never been interrogated. Solomon saw a "white-masked" man coming from the Mulberry bushes after the shot was fired.
2. FBI not doing ballistics tests to match the found rifle with the bullet.
3. The Mustang CB chase.

The pro se civil case--was that Jerry filing? I thought it was Jimmy.

You can help me on an article if you will tell me what you'd be willing to be quoted on re Jimmy's eyesight vis-a-vis his ability to aim a weapon. (You and I discussed this some time back.)

"Peter Morse" will have an article in about 2 weeks in National Examiner. It's the eyewitness account of Ben Branch. Ben is now music director of Operation PUSH in Chicago. If you recall, Ben told me he was the last man ever to talk to Dr. King. Wayne says his recall doesn't match that of Solomon Jones, Eskridge or others. But I say Branch could have been cool-headed and with the best recall. I'm not vouching for Branch; just reporting. Branch also tells he was never interrogated by FBI or local fuzz.

No clips in my file on March 68 riot. Sorry. Haven't seen Kay Pittman Black or talked to her in some time, but here is her home address: Mrs. David D. Black Jr., 11 S. Reese St., Memphis TN 38111. Phone 327-3763. (11 S. Reese.)

Morris Cunningham I know nothing about.

Best,

Phil