

3/3/75

Dear Jon,

Thanks for your 2/28 and the enclosures.

First I have to say that these 1960 pictures do make Youngblood look more like that Mexico sketch and that individual features do bear a close resemblance. However, the age is quite different and then there is the origin of the Mexico sketch. The original is different. I've compared the three different versions I have. You thus have to ask yourself why it was necessary to prepare an entirely different sketch in Mexico or what its purposes could have been. (The woman, by the way, also bears a striking resemblance to Clay Shaw. Wanna make something of that? Who is she?)

We'll find these pix of value. These different views could also be of value if copying them isn't too much trouble. We are far from the end on this. Perhaps the court record holds leads?

I have no argument with theorizing that there were false leads to Youngblood. In Memphis and in Mexico. Why Mexico I have no idea.

My reluctance to part with these pix is not because I put a literary value on them. It is for preserving them and secrecy about them for court use and because I've been gypped out of the not inconsiderable cost to me of getting them. I would like to recover that. I can't if I let any copies out of my possession. Lesar only has seen them and he knows how to replace them.

It is not easy to comment on your release on what calls itself the "Commission on Domestic Intelligence and the Electoral Process," a something that suddenly finds this includes what it claims is still "classified" about the JFK assassination. A buckshot-bullshit approach. They are ignorant. Perhaps Halperin is serious. But this is a typical self-promotion of the kind that has characterized Lane's entire career. They haven't gotten close to where they can do anything and already they are making loud, inaccurate and self-promoting noises. The most they can have done is write a general letter. And as of now the best I can see as a reasonable hope is that they don't fuck the whole thing up. These are not simple matters. And I'm disappointed that people like Halperin lend themselves to it. Without even beginning to make inquiries or to look around. It is not less than irresponsible. It gets into the unethical and unprincipled when they announce that they are going to go after what I've already taken to the Supreme Court, what was instrumental in getting the law revised, and what the first moment of the first day I filed suit over again. They don't really know a damned thing about any of this. It is a serious error to confuse Lane as an effective public speaker and his knowledge or lack of it. He didn't even do his own work for Rush to Judgement. There can be an enormous and frightfully great difference between him as a bullshit artist, lawyer or not, and him as a litigant in a field in which at best he has done no work in almost a decade, never did any work in the areas indicated. I am troubled by this because the government can stall us and select that later suit to litigate and win where they can't honestly win from me. His propaganda will have the same effect in court that it did behind the scenes when Rush to Judgement was torn apart. He didn't even dare face Liebeler on this. I had to abandon my second book to let Liebeler off his/our back. I did it, too.

If you take the whole unidentified task force, as it calls itself, and add the accumulated knowledge, you'll find it is close to zero. Do you have the other names? I might be able to reason with some. If you have what you call their "formal demand" I'd like to read it. Many of these things are "secret" only because this whole kit and kaboodle is ignorant and has done no work. We are today at a point where something might be accomplished. Gregory was the first disaster. Now these can easily be the second.

Moreover, they did this without consultation with Lesar. That is a dead give-away on their seriousness as honest people can use the word.

If your story is accurate they don't even know the most elemental facts. And the ACLU refused to sue this law for me in 1966. Handwagon stuff for them now. Best,

ZODIAC

News Service 950 Howard Street, San Francisco, California 94103 (415) 956-3555

February 28

Dear Harold:

Here are the Youngblood photos.

They were taken by the San Francisco Chronicle between December 15 of 1960 and January 13 of 1961 when Youngblood was on trial in S.F.

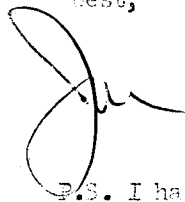
I think the resemblance between these photos and the Mexico City sketch is quite striking -- that the sketch looks as much or more like Youngblood than it does like the tramp.

Is there a chance that the original (Memphis) sketch looked even more like Youngblood -- that it was altered to look like the tramp in order to provide a false lead away from Youngblood? Yes or not, Hal? Or won't you say?

I've also enclosed a story from our service for March 3rd about the Center for Policy Studies and Mark Lane. I think this is a significant development -- particularly with Morton Halperin and even the A.C.L.U. involved.

What do you think?

Best,



P.S. I have two other photos of Youngblood that give slightly different angles of his face -- but nothing in addition.

P.S.S. I figured out what the second umbrella man was doing. He was signalling to the first umbrella man!