

November 30, 2018

Leon Bailey
Outstanding American
P.O. Box 66505
Baltimore, MD 21239

Dear Mr. Bailey,

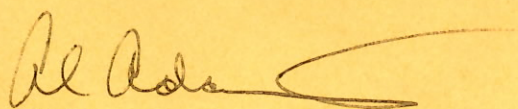
I believe it was you that shared the wonderful email from Mr. Larry Cobb last Tuesday in Baltimore. I'm Al Adams, the Navy Submariner that you were so gracious to in traffic. What a surprise and honor to have you share the email through my window.

Your story is incredible and thank you for sharing it with me and the world through your book. As an "Old White Guy" that joined the Navy in 1961 I remember how difficult it was for persons of color. Fortunately, I was able to see some positive changes in racial awareness during my 23-year career.

I remember when Admiral Zumwalt became CNO in the late 1960s and implemented his "Z-Grams" to bring about positive changes in the Navy. One of those Z-Grams instituted Racial Awareness seminars that were referred to by many of my white ship-mates as "Watermelon University." These attitudes caused me to take a look at a lot of my own prejudices as a kid growing up in New York City. It was the start of a life changing event for me. I had joined the Navy as a 17-year old high school dropout and retired after 23-years with a master's degree. I grew up in the Navy. I can only imagine some of the difficulties you must have encountered early on in your time in the Navy. I am enclosing a check for your book so that I may read more of your story.

Thanks again for sharing Mr. Cobb's email with me. I can see you are truly a legend and inspiration. As you know, we are in very polarizing times right now and racial prejudice seems to be as bad, if not worse than ever with many of our leaders giving it power. Your act of reaching out to me touched my heart and I am grateful to you. Because of your act I will be more consciously aware of how I can make the world just a little bit better today.

God bless you and your family,



Al Adams