

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, WFO (62-0)

FROM : ROBERT H. SYLVESTER, CLERK

SUBJECT: LEONARD J. ^XSHORTELL
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: 1/24/67

SHORTELL, who said he resides 6508 8th St., Apt. B-2, Alexandria, Virginia, telephone 765-1726, called WFO 8:25pm, 1/24/67, and advised at follows:

About twenty minutes prior to calling WFO, he called the White House and spoke to a Secret Service representative. He told this man that although he had not yet received his subscription copy of "Look" magazine, containing the latest serialization of author WILLIAM MANCHESTER's "Death of a President," the controversial account of the KENNEDY assassination, he had been following advance "leaked" information about contents of the serialization in the newspapers. SHORTELL expressed to the Secret Service representative the sympathy of both his wife and himself towards President JOHNSON's responsibilities and feelings at the time of the late President's death. SHORTELL said further that both his wife and himself were behind President JOHNSON "all the way."

SHORTELL claimed that the Secret Service man to whom he spoke made a comment to the effect that SHORTELL must be "some kind of a nut" to call the White House for that reason. SHORTELL alleged that the Secret Service man then told him that SHORTELL was a known caller to the White House, pointing out to SHORTELL that he last called in September, 1966. SHORTELL also claimed that the Secret Service man made a comment to the effect that he was going to come out and tear out SHORTELL's phone if he made further calls like this to the White House.

SHORTELL said he took exception to the Secret Service man's comments, arguing with him somewhat, but that he did not

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RHS:rhs



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press the matter further.

SHORTELL stated he was calling the FBI because he wanted to make this a matter of record in FBI files. He said he often calls the FBI, usually FBI Headquarters, to discuss his feelings about various matters, and that he has spoken to Mr. DeLoach on the phone in the past. He also said he personally knows former SA PAUL ERTZINGER, whom he met while they were both working "on the Hill," and that he is aware ERTZINGER is now with what he believes is the American Historical Society. SHORTELL wanted to know whether the FBI could investigate the actions of the Secret Service representative to whom he spoke.

SHORTELL was advised of lack of FBI jurisdiction. He indicated an understanding and said he would probably make a complaint to Secret Service.

WFO Indices were negative re SHORTELL.

For record purposes.