

LBJ, CBS, et al

by Fred T. Newcomb & Perry Adams

On Apr. 24, 1963, the front page of the Dallas Times Herald headlined: LBJ SEES KENNEDY DALLAS VISIT (fig. 1). This was 43 days before the basic decision to visit Texas was made for President Kennedy.

That decision was first made on June 5, 1963. According to the Warren Commission's Report, it occurred during a meeting at the El Cortez Hotel in El Paso, Texas. Present were President Kennedy, Johnson, Gov. John Connally, LBJ aide Clifford C. Carter, and Secretary of the Navy, Fred Korth. Carter's affidavit also confirmed this (v.7, pp. 474-5). Yet on April 23rd, Johnson not only announced the state, but also the cities and approximate times of the visit.

Johnson said that the President would come to Texas and visit four cities. He described - accurately for November - a breakfast in Fort Worth, a luncheon in Dallas, an afternoon tea in San Antonio, and a dinner in Houston. Johnson gave "this summer" as the time for the visit. A summer date of August 27th was first mentioned at the June meeting. It was rejected as impractical.

Gov. Connally, in a life story of Nov. 24, 1967 (p. 100A), stated that these cities and times were first known on Oct. 4, 1963. On that date, Connally met with the President at the White House where they agreed on five cities. Kennedy said, "I'll accept your judgment on that, John." That evening, Connally had dinner with Johnson who was upset over being ignored in the planning of the trip. Why was Johnson angry when it was he who first announced it?

On Oct. 8, 1963, the Dallas Times Herald proclaimed: JFK TEXAS VISIT MAY INCLUDE CITY, CONNALLY REPORTS. PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S TEXAS VISIT WILL BE ONE DAY AFFAIR ON NOVEMBER 22ND. The article observed: "The Texas trip had been first revealed in the Times Herald last September 13th and was met with official denials for almost two weeks. Gov. John Connally last weekend said the President will be in Texas November 22nd." After scoring a news first with its April 24th story, the Dallas Times Herald then said it first reported this in September.

Testimony of the Kennedy aides involved in the trip planning made no mention of LBJ's April 23rd announcement. Would a denial of this story have confirmed the "dumb Johnson" rumors which the Administration took pains to discredit? Why did President Kennedy go to Texas? Evelyn Lincoln, JFK's secretary, wrote in her book Kennedy and Johnson that he told her, "I am going to Texas, because I have made a commitment. I can't patch up those warring factions. This is for them to do, but I will go because I have told them I would. And it is too early to make an announcement about another

running mate - that will perhaps wait until the convention." (p.205)

Incredibly, the April 24th news story quoted Johnson as saying, "...wait until next November before you shoot him (the President) down..." (fig. 2) Where was Lee H. Oswald when LBJ made that remark? Oswald was in Dallas. According to friends, he packed up and left town the next day by bus for New Orleans. Was Oswald aware of this story on Johnson? Of what significance was Oswald's return to Dallas on October 3rd?

Fred Newcomb sent this information to CBS on Feb. 12, 1970. CBS was to broadcast an interview with Johnson on May 2nd about the assassination. This interview would be the third with LBJ in a series which cost CBS a reported \$300,000-\$500,000 and represented over 50,000 feet of film.

Newcomb also informed CBS that the Warren Commission asked the FBI to examine Dallas newspaper files for April 1963. They were to check Marina Oswald's claim that her husband wanted to see either Johnson or Richard M. Nixon in Dallas around April 23rd. The FBI told the Commission that Nixon was not in Dallas at that time. (see the "Richard M. Nixon Incident," Warren Report, pp.187-189.) Why did the Commission's report fail to note Johnson's April 23rd announcement?

CBS replied to Newcomb's letter on February 18th that it was "aware of the incidents" and his interest in the subject would be "rewarded" on its May 2nd broadcast.

On February 23rd, U.S. News & World Report commented that Johnson would go into "extraordinary detail" about the assassination in the interview.

On April 4th, Newcomb sent another letter to CBS along with two glossy prints of the April 24th newspaper story. On April 13th, CBS answered that its staff was "aware of the Dallas Times-Herald stories."

Then, on April 28th, the Washington Post wrote that Johnson's comment on the Warren Commission's findings would be deleted from the CBS broadcast. The deletion, said the paper, "was requested by Mr. Johnson on the grounds of national security."

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See Pages 31 and 32-A

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ONE-DAY TEXAS TOUR EYED

LBJ Sees Kennedy Dallas Visit



Continued Cuba Watch Revealed By Vice President

national security." The article noted that Johnson's request was made only three weeks prior. The interview was filmed in autumn 1969. CBS yielded to Johnson's request although the contract gave him no right to censorship.

According to the Los Angeles Times of April 28th, Johnson's deleted comment referred to his reservations that the President was killed by one assassin and doubts about Oswald's "motivations and connections." Only a few months earlier, a Warren Commission member, Sen. Richard B. Russell, was reported in the Washington Post of Jan. 19, 1970 as saying he "never believed that Lee Harvey Oswald planned the assassination alone."

The CBS broadcast of May 2nd lacked any reference to Johnson's April 23rd announcement.

Also not included in the three CBS interviews were some aspects of the way in which LBJ lives today. According to the Los Angeles Times of Aug. 22, 1969, Johnson has a detail of 26 Secret Service men to guard him. U.S. News & World Report of Feb. 2, 1970 noted that he has a "short-wave radio under his bed to monitor" the activities of his aides and visitors. On Jan. 7, 1970, the Wall Street Journal carried a lengthy article about Johnson's purchase of "large hunks of ranchland in... Mexico, Costa Rica and Australia."

A final note. At the end of the May 2nd interview by CBS, Johnson asserted: "...I don't want anyone to ever say that I ever let him (President Kennedy) down for a moment." The following items are of interest. They were published in the New York Times of 1963 on the dates given.

On October 3rd, the White House stated that most U.S. troops might be withdrawn from Vietnam by the end of

1965. This followed a report to the President by high U.S. officials on their trip to Vietnam. On November 1st, the President said he hoped to have 1000 of the 16,500 in Vietnam out by the end of 1963. On November 21st, a high level conference in Honolulu reaffirmed withdrawal of 1000 by Jan. 1, 1964. (Nov. 22, 1963, President Kennedy was assassinated.)

On November 25th, while reaffirming President Kennedy's policies, Johnson met with officials about the conclusions of the Honolulu conference. On December 4th, 220 Americans left Vietnam. On December 15th, Dean Rusk said all U.S. advisers would stay in Vietnam. On December 20th, U.S. officials indicated that the end of 1965 as the date for withdrawal from Vietnam was "unrealistic."

On December 21st, the junta in Saigon received Johnson's assurance that the U.S. would support the war. Was President Kennedy the 151st casualty of the war in Indo-China?

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At the afternoon reception, a crowd of nearly 2,000 jammed the Crystal Ballroom of the Baker Hotel to hear Vice President Johnson lash out at vociferous critics of the government.

Before shaking hands for nearly an hour, the Vice president said he had not come to "say anything ugly" about anyone. "My heart is not filled with fear or hate or hypocrisy" he said.

SCORES DETRACTORS
"I see some people who are filled with hate and fear and hypocrisy and I say 'God forgive them'" he said to cheers from the Democrats assembled.

"I sympathize with these few who are in the minority. If they think this country is in as bad shape as they say it is, if they think our government is stupid and disloyal, well, I wonder why they agree to stay here anyway?" he said.

He said the President of the United States is like a pilot and the election is when the nation picks an airplane and a pilot for the next four years.

COMMON DANGER
"Once you pick him, and you're flying across the water in bad weather, don't go up and open the door and try to knock him in the head. He's the only pilot you have and if the plane goes down, you go with it."

"At least wait until next November before you shoot him down."
The vice president said he had supported President Eisenhower

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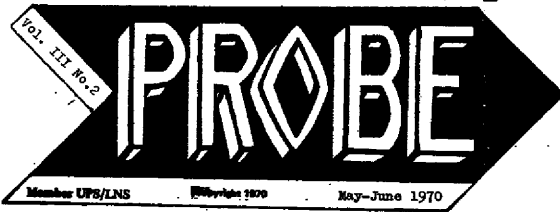
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Co. Supervisor Grant's Campaign Manager & Administrative Assistant as Silent Partner in Isla Vista Real Estate Manipulations



by Bonnie Adams

If a land developer wants to make a killing in real estate in Isla Vista, he will need to find ways to double or triple his investment. This has traditionally been accomplished through a process known as rezoning. The first step in that process involves buying or arranging to buy land that is zoned for low population density residences. The second step involves persuading the County Board of Supervisors to rezone it for high population density.

R-1 and R-2 zoning are considered to be low density. R-1 is single family houses; R-2 is duplexes. R-4, which is considered to be high density zoning, permits land so zoned to be filled with multiple-unit buildings (apartment houses).

A duplex is one building containing two living units; a fourplex is one building containing four living units, etc. The word "unit" as used in this article is interchangeable with the word "apartment." A unit may contain from one to five bedrooms.

A rezoning may increase the market value of a parcel of land by tens of thousands of dollars. Rezonings, if they are to be successful, almost always require the favor of the County Supervisor in whose district they are located. The other members of the Board generally will not vote for a rezoning if the Supervisor in whose district it is located is opposed to that rezoning. Rezonings in Isla Vista have almost always evoked a storm of protests from the community. Rezonings in Isla Vista have almost always been decided in favor of the developers who request them.

Daniel G. Grant is the County Supervisor who represents Isla Vista and Goleta. PROBE has discovered that in Isla Vista's most controversial rezonings, the developers have cut Dan Grant's campaign manager in on the deal.

Such activities have been going on unchecked and undetected in Isla Vista for a long time. The following two-part article will trace and document a six-year pattern of favoritism and conflict of interest.

PART I - 'The Davis Rezoning'

PROLOGUE

We now take you back to the year 1964. At the same time that Dan Grant was campaigning for re-election, a group of Isla Vista landowners asked the County Planning Commission to approve apartment rezoning on 8 acres of duplex-zoned land in Isla Vista. The Planning Commission turned down the request. The applicants then appealed to the Board of Supervisors where, upon the motion of Dan Grant, the Board overturned the Planning Commission decision and granted the rezoning. That rezoning, in the words of a Planning Department staff report, resulted in the "immediate increase of up to 200% in value of the property..."

THE FIRST APPLICATION

The property that we are going to discuss is bounded on the north by Abrego Road, on the south by Sueno Road, on the west by Camino Corto, and on the east by Camino Del Sur. In 1967, this area was divided by Estero Road, which runs in an east-west direction.

The northern 1/2 of the land lying between the present Estero Road and Abrego Road had been previously zoned R-4 (apartments). In 1962, the land to the east of the above described parcel was rezoned R-4. In 1963, the owners of the 3 parcels indicated on map 1 (see page 4) paid a \$100 filing fee and applied to the County for rezoning of their properties from R-2 (duplex) to R-4 (apartments). Numerous people objected to the proposed rezoning, including Isla Vista Realtor John Harlan. The manager of the Isla Vista Sanitary District also opposed it.

The County Planning Commission denied the rezoning and gave the following reasons for doing so: 1) only 47% of the land in Isla Vista which is presently zoned R-4 has been developed, so there is no need for additional R-4 zoning; 2) present R-4 zoning does not provide adequate parking; 3) it is

Cont. on p.4

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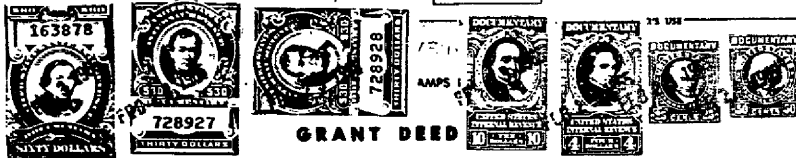
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FOR A VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.

ESTHER A. DAVIS, a widow
GRANT L. JOSEPHINE FINEAR, a married woman, as her separate property, as to an undivided 1/4 interest; JOHN C. HARLAN, a married man, as his separate property, as to an undivided 1/4 interest; ARTHUR L. SMYDER, a married man as his separate property and RICHARD C. CLEVELAND, a married man, as his separate property, as to an undivided 1/4 interest; WILLIAM KOART, a married man, as his separate property, JACK SCHWARTZ, a married man, as his separate property and CARL CHANDLER, a married man, as his separate property, as to an undivided 1/4 interest;

the real property in the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, described as follows:

That portion of the Los Dos Pueblos Rancho, described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the Westerly line of Camino Del Sur distant North 500 feet from its intersection with the Northerly line of Pasado Road as shown upon the map of "Isla Vista" recorded in Book 15, page 81 and following of Maps, records of Santa Barbara County, California; thence North along said Westerly line 150 feet; thence West 553.18 feet; thence South 150 feet; thence East 553.18 feet to the point of beginning.

EXCEPTING therefrom one-half of all oil, gas, minerals and hydrocarbon substances lying below a depth of 500 feet from the surface of said land, but without the right of entry upon any portion of the surface above a depth of 500 feet for any purpose whatsoever.

Dated February 17, 1965

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF
Santa Barbara

On February 17, 1965
before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said
State, personally appeared

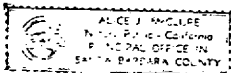
Esther A. Davis

known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that she executed the same

WITNESS my hand and official seal
Alice J. McClure

ALICE J. MCCLURE
Notary Commission Expires Aug. 2, 1969

Esther A. Davis
Esther A. Davis



FORM 1002