

Sylvia -
Here's more of
my wild imagination
at work. Fred Newcomb

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Dear Larry,

The following paragraph is from The Liberal Establishment by Clifford
Evans, pages 273-274:

(BILLIE SOL)

"We now have this sequence of events: A Estes' attorney and Agriculture official Mattox - the later appointed at Estes' behest and with the intercession of LBJ aide Clifton Carter - are told by Henry Marshall that the proposed allotment scheme is illegal. Estes goes ahead with it anyway, and Mattox gives his approval. When trouble begins to brew over the matter, Marshall is found dead, shot five times in the stomach with a bolt-action rifle. The Texas Rangers conclude that more likely than not he was murdered. Secretary of Agriculture Freeman, questioned about the allotments, says unfortunately "nobody knows" what went on down there in Texas because Marshall is no longer around to tell the story. Agriculture official Battle Hales, however, says somebody does know and he, Hales, has the proof in his files. Hales is subsequently questioned, finds a guard at the door of his office and is barred from entering, is transferred and told to leave his files behind. Then, apparently, Hales' secretary, Mary K. Jones, tries to protect the files, she is bodily removed from the office and committed to a mental institution for 12 days without judicial process.

As Senator Williams concluded: "Should those files now fail to produce what Mr. Hales had alleged, who will ever know whether or not they have been stripped? Certainly these files were not confiscated for nothing. If Miss Jones is discredited as a witness, it could prove convenient to someone."

It seems from this and other accounts I've read about this affair that it was one of the smeltest investigations and cover-ups -- an ~~extraneous~~ outrageous affair involving assassination, intimidation, medical hanky panky and document stealing. In ~~next~~ short, all those nasty little behavior traits that we've been studying for the last seven years. It even involves the State of Texas, the Vice-President and his cronic Clifton Carter. The grand jury even had thechutzpa to call Marshall's death suicide! Time Magazine did a piece on this, I recall.

Now stay with me Larry, because I am now going to make a grand leap from this smelly case to another smelly case.

I quote your Puterbaugh memo:

"He said that his experience with the FBI - as head of the Minnesota Liquor Commission and in working for the Department of Agriculture on the Billie Sol Estes case has given him doubts about the FBI's ability to satisfactorily investigate the assassination."

Sound familiar? Puterbaugh ~~is~~ is saying the "FeeBees" are responsible for the Estes mess and the JFK mess. Puterbaugh worked on the Billie Sol Estes investigation and somehow also wound up sitting in the pilot car on November 22, 1963.

Now I ask you...

J. Evetts Haley in his poorly documented anti-LBJ book A Texan Looks at Lyndon has this to say about Estes:

"As in the later Bobby Baker case, there ~~are~~ were strong suspicions that the Kennedys were all set to shunt Johnson aside in 1964 because of his connections with the Estes affair. It is known that FBI agents were working on the angle immediately after Billie Sol's arrest. Dr. Dunn had numerous calls from agents inquiring specifically for leads as to Johnson's connections, the agent in charge admitting that they "had the green light" from Washington, which meant from Bobby Kennedy and his brother.

Certain minor contributing incidents were a matter of rumor if not of public knowledge; the report of Lady Bird Johnson's overnight visit at the Estes home; her brother's alleged interest in the Estes grain operations; Billie's own open allegations that he and Lyndon were going into the grain storage business under the Government Point IV program "in India" and next in ~~xxxx~~ "Johannesburg" - where Billie was to be Ambassador - as "Lyndon has it all fixed up for me"; and the persistent rumors that Mrs. Johnson's money had saved Commercial Solvents."

pages 144-145

Now as we know from our work on the case, the head of the FBI field office in Dallas, ~~was~~ hardly a dispassionate investigator of the assassination, according to one witness I spoke to he offered to "set her up in an apartment" and got real cozy with her in an obvious attempt to get her to change her story. Well, right in the middle of this Billie Sol Estes investigation somebody played "musical chairs" with the heads of the Dallas, San Francisco and Honolulu field offices of the FBI. Notice this story I found while in Dallas:

"headline -- TOP FBI MAN HERE SHIFTED TO NEW POST"

Curtis O. Lynnum, Special Agent in Charge of the Dallas office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation since 1958 has been reassigned to San Francisco.

He will be replaced in the Dallas position by Gordon Shanklin, a 21-year FBI veteran who is coming here from the post of special agent in charge of the Honolulu office.

The 45-year old Mr. Lynnum came to Dallas in December, 1958, from the FBI Inspector's staff in Washington, D.C. He had previously been special agent in charge of the Springfield, Illinois office.

An FBI agent since 1941, his varied career with the bureau included everything from working on German espionage during World War II to coordinating the over all Texas investigation of the recent Billie Sol Estes case."

I also got a copy of the September '67 issue of American Opinion with an excellent article by Medford Evans called - of all things - Coup D'Etat. This piece very nearly blew my mind. He says:

"For example, no one having the slightest acquaintance with history of the Praetorian guard in the later days of the Roman Empire could fail to speculate inwardly on the possibility that the agency most directly responsible for the safety of the first man should be itself the one to do him in." (page 74)

He goes on and on, including citing Austin Miller and Clint Hill as to the source of the shots.

Then he writes:

"Looking at contemporary history, students at Yale not too many years ago heard a professor intimate in a classroom lecture -- possibly for mental stimulation -- that the late Huey P. Long was not only gunned down September 8, 1935 by his own bodyguard (which also killed the ostensible assassin and fall guy, Dr. Carl Weiss) but the gunment were suborned to the act because the Louisiana Kingfish had become the one and only possible rival of Franklin D. Roosevelt in demagogic appeal."

I checked on this by reading a new book by T. Harry Williams called Huey Long. Williams thinks Weiss did it alone and backs this up with some good research so I'm inclined to believe him. What do you know about this?

It bothers me though because I seem to recall that Oswald checked out a book on Huey Long while he was in New Orleans. Didn't he? Along with ~~some books about the Secret Service?~~

One author named David H. Zinman who wrote The Day Huey Long was Shot (New York 1963) thinks the guards did it - probably by a wild shot. If Oswald read Zinman's book or another like it, then that would cause me to re-think my whole opinion of Lee Harvey Oswald. That would be very wierd.

I've got to read The Userpers by Medford Evans because he seems to have a very good grasp of things to my mind. Also he's very witty -- a thing uncommon among the right-wing, Buckley excepted.

Onward

FRED