

January 12, 1966

Penn:

What does this mean?

Tulsa Daily World, 1/12/66: "Washington (AP)--
The White House said Tuesday the names of newsmen and
others who telephoned members of President Johnson's
staff are being list-d in the interests of security and
economy.

Press Secretary Bill Moyers said a study growing out
of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy showed
'the necessity for better records on calls to the White
House.'" (Underlining mine)

Why? Did Lee Oswald call the White House? If such
records (of calls to the White House) had been kept,
would Kennedy be alive today?

Have re-read Roberts' testimony. Most interesting
point is the unidentified police car episode which,
according to Roberts, honked its horn outside 1026 N.
Beckley while Oswald was inside the house.

Roberts also had an affinity for a "dark" jacket
which was not quite what the Commission was after.
(In this regard, her statement both agreed and conflicted
with Whaley's; Whaley described the jacket as dark blue,
but he claimed that Oswald was wearing it 15 minutes
BEFORE Roberts said he put it on. This same controversial
blue, "dark" jacket was allegedly found later in the
assassination week by the TSBDB employees in the domino
room, where it had been strangely overlooked for days.
Marina, I think, indicated it was thas jacket Lee took
to work from Irving on the morning of the 22nd.)

Roberts also offered some potential contradiction
between final testimony (before the Commission) and
original deposition. She first claimed in the press
that Lee appeared around 12:45 pm; later she modified
this to 1:00 pm. However, even her final testimony
indicates the time as earlier than 1:00. She based
Lee's arrival on the telephone call she got from a friend
telling her the President had been hit, but she indicated
that the TV was not yet picking up the story, and that
Lee ran in at the same time as the television was bringing
the first pictures. It is possible, I suppose, that the
friend heard radio reports; did the Dallas television
come on with picture coverage AFTER the radio people?
I am inclined to think so, as the President's motorcade
was NOT covered by TV, but was by radio.

Diabetics are often heart attack victims. The two weaknesses are compatible. Nevertheless, Mrs. Roberts WAS receiving medication from SOME doctor, and from what I understand, she was also receiving injections. Mrs. Roberts was blind in one eye. Her eyesight was poor. Had she perhaps over the months improved her eyesight-memory (of the police car, for example) by way of much thought and come up with something not too happy which may have been triggered in her mind by Whaley's death? After all, if one of these two had information to rebut the other, the whole case was in trouble.

Your offer on Haley is tempting, but I am in the soup with my husband already on the proposed trip in February to see you and Thayer. He has given the girls and me permission to go, but I doubt I could extend it to take in the other. I would surely like to hear Haley's comments on the LBJ-De Mohrenschildt link through Jaffe and George and Herman Brown (one of these latter is dead now). Jaffe has been giving the city fathers in Tulsa fits lately. He is a real bull-dozer, and apparently has moved into the fast-growing Tulsa financial picture with LBJ's blessings. As I said before, none of these links means a thing. Nevertheless, to my uneducated eye, they are most interesting. I am always fascinated to see true democracy in action, particularly when it is ~~xxxx~~ practiced by such odd playmates as LBJ, the Brown brothers, De Mohrenschildt, Morris Jaffe and Lee Oswald.

Was there an autopsy on Roberts? Was there ever an autopsy on Whaley? Did the Lt. Commander recover and return to the Navy Department, Washington DC? What was the autopsy report on the old man, Wells?

Will be watching the television tonight with curiosity as LBJ struggles to let the tranquillizers overcome his drifting in and out of paranoia. Shakespeare summed this syndrome up as a bad conscience, But, my goodness, Johnson doesn't have anything to feel guilty about!

Does he?

Penn, let me hear from you. I have ~~xxxxxx~~ another terrible request. Don't hurry because I know you are busy. I mailed out all copies of your paper you have sent, but now I need another COMPLETE set for my local doctor and one more complete set for myself. Am enclosing \$3.00 to cover. Take care.

Love to you both,

S.

Penn:

The enclosed from INSIDE REPORT bothers me. We know what a planned get-Yarmolinsky campaign was put on by the far right. When he was transferred from Defense to Poverty, I was suspicious, but everybody said: ~~OKK~~ Oh, no. This is a sign that IBJ has great confidence in him and intends to support him 100% against the far right.

But now look. Yarmolinsky has been humiliated past the point of no return, just as IBJ intended. What does this mean? It means to me that the far right, the vicious fringe, IS controlling policy in the US, and that they have Johnson like a puppet on a string.

I am glad Yarmolinsky is going with the Kennedy group. We are going to have a very bitter faction growing on that side. I was impressed in Schlesinger's book with his refusal to comment on the WCR, and his strange, sad insistence that Kennedy was always fighting against time, which was the real thief of his talent and his energies.

In my speculative way it has occurred to me that Kennedy's health may have encouraged certain people to imagine that since he (Kennedy) was about to die anyway, shouldn't they give history a bit of a push?

Aloha,
Shirley.

Was Kennedy's head ~~wound~~ wound compatible at all with the action of an AR-15?

There is something familiar with the name Stamm. It seems to me he may be a person who wrote me many, many months ago and offered me money for my work (including it, actually, in his letter). I sent it directly back to him (courteously, of course) and heard no more. Now, I could be very wrong on this. At any rate, the name rang some kind of bell.