

11/18/71

Dear Sylvia:

I checked the original source for the footnote in Peter Scott's article, "Cambodia: Why The Generals Won" from the book Conflict In Indo-China (Random House, 1970).

The United States In World Affairs 1963, Council On Foreign Relations; Harper and Row, 1964, p. 193 does not completely affirm Mr. Scott's interpretation.

It does substantiate the Nov. 20, 1963 decision to implement the withdrawal of 1,000 troops but rather cryptically adds that in a "few days subsequent" the decision was altered.

Thus the reader is left with a verbal or written form of a Rorschach test to fill in.

I find it unfortunate that scholars place an almost mystical faith in

documents" despite the sobering example of initial media acceptance of Buckley's "National Pentagon Papers".

I do not accept Mr. Prouty's theory that Eellsberg acted as a CIA employee but the executive decision making process of The Power Elite (Corporate or Governmental) does not reveal itself to written records as per the meeting in Mr. Ford's Portrait of The Assassin.

The schematic data validity of at least The N.Y. Times Edition of The Papers seems questionable.

The absurd "Newsweek Cover story" on Helms contains one uninteresting sentence.

--- The Phoenix Program that used torture and assassination --- were assigned to temporary contract agents; retired Army agents, Special Forces spinoffs, or former stateside policemen.

I suggest that you read Talara's Honor Thy Father for a factually detailed nightmare account of an F.B.I. sponsored assassination attempt of a Mafia figure.

Sincerely,  
EO