

Ed, the CDW 3/7 Skolnick aide gets mental test story is marked in a way that tells me this is an extra copy and you do not want it back. If I am wrong, let me know. It will be in my Skolnick file. Much as I am reluctant to credit the feds in such stuff, it is not at all hard to believe that Alex J. Bottos, Jr., is nuts. If one considers how one could work with Skolnick at this late date, the alternatives are severely limited. The tragedy is that Skolnick probably crossed the thin line long ago. Of course, this is separate from whether he impersonated a federal officer. From my experience with Skolnick's ethics, morals and general principles, I also do not find that as hard to believe as would be more comfortable. The irresponsibles always manage to do it to themselves and in the doing taint all others. What we need now is for Crazy Sherman to certify that allegedly crazy Bottos can't be because he works for Sherman. I'm surprised to see none of his typical accusations in this piece. No secret-police frame-up? No CIA dirty-works? Is Sherman sick? HW 3/10/73

Skolnick C.D.W. aide gets 3/6/73 mental test

(P. 28)
By Dave Canfield

An associate of legal researcher Sherman H. Skolnick has been ordered indefinitely committed to a U.S. hospital for federal prisoners for psychiatric examination.

Alex J. Bottos Jr., 42, of 4075 Lincoln, Gary, was ordered to the hospital at Springfield, Mo., "for a period of 60 days or such additional time as may be necessary." Bottos faces trial on charges of impersonating a federal officer.

Bottos' committal was ordered by U.S. District Court Judge George Beamer at Hammond, on a motion filed by Andrew Baker, assistant U.S. attorney for northern Indiana.

BAKER'S MOTION indicated that the government had evidence from a number of sources

that Bottos may be suffering from "extreme paranoia" and "delusions" and may be "unable to separate truth from fiction."

Baker said after the committal was ordered that such motions are made when it is believed a defendant "may be suffering from such an (intense) mental disorder that he is unable to stand trial."

Skolnick, head of the Citizens Committee to Clean Up the Courts, told newsmen that Bottos had been working with the committee in northwest Indiana "in identifying state and federal judicial and related corruption."

IN A MOTION filed Monday before Beamer, Bottos offered "to submit (Skolnick's) testimony . . . as to (Bottos') activities . . . in identifying judicial and other corruption in this part of the country, including corruption of appointed and elected public office holders."

The motion was denied without comment by Beamer.

Bottos, who was arrested Feb. 18, 1972 in Gary on charges of impersonating a federal officer while interviewing three citizens, pleaded innocent last July 21.