

John Dodd, Applause Books, JFK movie

Earlier this week ^(about 3/11-3/12) I was told by a phone call from the WxPost that a ^{Dodd} John David had asked to use my ¹ letter that the Post published this past January ^{11th}. The woman who phoned said "publish." I told her OK but she gave me his phone number, I supposed so I would call him and give him permission.: 212/496-7511.

She gave me no information about Dodd ^{of} what use he planned and I did not ask because I expected ^{to} hear from him, I suppose.

After I thought about this I assumed she wanted me to phone Dodd ^{so} I placed a reverse call to that phone number. A man answered and told the operator he would not accept a reverse call.

He'd heard me give my name so I decided not to pay the cost of the call in his, not my interest. 3/21/92

3/24: Ms. Ford of the Post phoned me again yesterday. I told her I'd phoned Dodd and he had refused to accept the charges. She asked me to phone him at his Conn. home, 203/966-3092.

The operator said there is a block on that phone on accepting reversal of charges so she did not even ask Dodd. I phoned Ford and told her, she asked if she could give him my number, I agreed and later he did call me. He is with Applause Books, they are doing a book on the Stone movie, including the script and 60-65 appended articles and letters on the controversy. Because he said that the ¹ title, or subtitle, says the book is a "documented" history of the film, I suggested that he consider whether in fact he could say "documented" without attracting considerable criticism, given the fact that he is not in a position to either document or know the actualities of the controversy. I then went into that briefly, I offered him copies of my letters to Stone. He indicated that he could not make decisions on such things as "documented" and wanting the letters. He is to send me a form to sign. I agreed to the use of that letter and said I'd sign and return ^{the form} it. In the course of our conversation he said they are using "much" ^{of} what ^{part other} Gardner wrote. Also Stone's response. I asked him if they are in a position to evaluate the honesty or accuracy of what Stone wrote and he admitted they are not. True also of the other writings they have selected to publish.

I'd heard from several connected with Stone as consultants that he planned to have the script printed and used in schools. So I made it clear that there could be considerable adverse criticism of the project in speaking to Dodd.

FBI Questions 'Tramps' at JFK Slaying Site

By George Lardner Jr.
Washington Post Staff Writer

Two of the three "tramps" arrested in Dallas shortly after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963 have told the FBI that they had nothing to do with it and were not on the scene until after the shooting.

Oliver B. Revell, agent in charge of the FBI's Dallas office, said yesterday that John F. Gedney and Harold Doyle were found and questioned in recent days after years of anonymity. The third, Gus W. Abrams, probably is dead, Revell said.

Their arrest sheets were found recently among Dallas police records on the assassination.

"We're not reopening the Kennedy case *per se*, but we are factually checking out any leads that do not appear to have been adequately handled," Revell said in a telephone interview.

Many conspiracy theorists have said the tramps, long known only by news photographs taken of them after they were arrested, were involved in the killing. Clean-shaven and relatively well-groomed, they were found in a freight car near the assassination site not long after Kennedy was killed Nov. 22, 1963.

They were held as "investigative" prisoners on vagrancy charges and released four days later, according to their arrest records.

Gedney, of Melbourne, Fla., and

Doyle, of Klamath Falls, Ore., told the FBI that "they had spent the night at the rescue mission; they were treated very nicely," Revell said.

Doyle commented that they had gotten fresh clothes, showered, shaved and had a meal. They had been taken back to the railroad yard where they heard all the commotion, sirens and everything, and they had asked what happened. They were told the president had been shot.

The FBI also plans new image enhancement of an 8-mm film taken or seven minutes before the assassination that seems to show movement in the sixth-floor windows of the Texas School Book Depository from which Lee Harvey Oswald is said to have fired the fatal shots.