

JDW: WxPost, House committee and me

4/1/77

I will be sending a copy of today's Post story by Lardner because of what it holds of the transcript the dolts let out by accident. I expect to get a copy. It is like the Commission ex. sess. transcripts - astounding what importances will spill when they expect perpetual secrecy.

I'll not be surprised if Lardner is building to a long Sunday story. Long ago I suggested one.

Although the Post's position has long been clear on the subject on this committee it has not been unfair. In fact it has leaned too far backward to be fair, which is surprising and raises obvious questions.

I have believed all along that whole the spookeries would prefer no investigation if they can't avoid one this is their best shot. I still believe this.

Several unusual things. That Lardner stays in touch is not unusual. We have gotten along despite disagreements for many years.

One is that Paul Valentine took Jim to lunch one day last week by prearrangement. Paul is on the metro desk now, not reporting. But he remains the Post's in-house King assassination expert. He made clear that the top brass hates me intensely. The timing of the Post's treating of Jim coincides with the coming vote on continuation of the committee. There is no doubt that Paul reported there is something to be investigated.

The day before the vote George spent about four hours going over the then new report with me after reading it himself. There is no single accuracy in it, virtually nothing relevant, certainly nothing basic and some of the most serious and ridiculous errors - of a nature that can't be excused in a Congressional committee, more after 6 months.

I expected a long story. It was worth a long story. George wrote a long story. Larry Stern killed it because it was too long. No reason for killing, I'm sure. If that story had been printed I'm sure the committee would not be in existence today.

After reading the transcript George phoned me yesterday. The call lasted a long time. He did not go into much of what is in today's story and he omitted part that relates to him, what gives the flavor of the Stokes press conference the day of the vote of approval. At one point toward the end Stokes said "I can hardly believe what I am hearing" in response to a question by AP's Adams, last in a strike of hard and correct questions relating to deMohrenschildt. George forgot himself for a minute and sang out "We can hardly believe what we are hearing." This is when Stokes walked out, as you may have seen reported. (I didn't.)

What is not in today's story is the fantasy called fact about the crimes. At no point any contact with reality. George relished my anticipation of the nonsense and citation, off the top of the head, of all sources. I could even anticipate the rest of one story attributed to Spurge McB. I called Lil in and told her which of two files to get me while I poured it out to George. I had one mistake. My recollection of the name used by the whore McBurney called a whore to me was something like Mustang or Palomino. It was Cochise. You may recall that back in 1969 this mysterious McBurney looked me up here in Frederick. He is one of those who over the years were pointed in asking me if I was not afraid of being killed. Among other things. And how secret is SpurgeMcB? My first contacts with him were when he identified himself by name on a radio show that was always monitored by the spookeries, a controversial one in Washington. I could go on and on and with every item in the report, every one in the transcript. But to date the Post has carried none. I can attribute some of this to its attitude toward me, that Bradley and Stern would rather my name never be in print. But not all. Yesterday George apologized and created confusion with his apology. It began was for the last several paragraphs in the story relating to me. I said none in my issue. It then seemed that there were to have been several paragraphs marked not for cutting and then cut. Hastily,