

Dear Jim, First add memo on today's WzPost/Kessler CIA-Oswald story 11/26/76

I had no time to think of this today because I was doing what required thought.

The electronic-news play of which I'm aware after a.m. TV news is zero. No mention on WTOP-TV 1 p.m. news, either. I had no phone call about it. A buff who called had something else in mind. No reporter of any interest of any kind.

One result of all these kinds of stories is, of course, to kill the whole story, to numb people, to ho-hum the editors. And to take the edge off of later exposures. Here it might be a good idea not to forget that there is mutual dislike between the FBI and CIA and that the CIA has two wings.

I had to go into town in the a.m. I listened to the NBC all-news Baltimore station when I was in the car, all but 10-15 minutes off an hour and 10-15 minutes, perhaps a little more. No mention. I was out of the car one time only. We actually had a traffic jam here this morning!

None I listened to music but there were several UPI newscasts. No mention. After the 1:00 WTOP-TV news I worked in the house without hearing anything then went outside to trim out the branches of the trees blown out by last year's storms. This is the kind of work that permits me to use a pocket radio. I did for close to three hours. The only time I had the set off is when you called. There were several mentions of Halperin's asking the House committee to look into the Hampton killing, a clear publicity stunt, but nothing on this. I was listening to WTOP radio.

Evening TV may have a new angle or lead. It was not mentioned at the lead-in of National Public Radio's hour and a half All things considered, which I'm listening to while doing this.

Who can figure today's press! But by normal standards of the past, especially with a new Congressional committee just beginning, on so controversial a subject, with so much recently in the news about the spooks, there would be considerable interest and some competition for followups and new leads. So interesting to see if to the Post this also is another one-shot, as the previous one of 11/13 was. Not following up would not have been normal in the past with a page-one scoop.

I'm going to make an FOIA request for the transcript of the Archives. I'll probably also write the CIA. Scott never finished the organization of my request files and that relating to the CIA is in more chaos but if your copies are not you'll find that this is covered in my all-inclusive request, that when Mark Allen's was an inadequate request I made a separate one, that the CIA wrote and told me this duplicated my earlier request and included in with that, and that I wrote and said I made this as a separate request because it could be processed easily and rapidly and I made it separately so they could, that this was my request.

I'm curious about the non-play on this story so I'm monitoring the final hours of WRC-TV's local news. NBC has a service to affiliates under which they provide TV stations what they do not use on net news. The hour WRC-TV had nothing. NBC-TV had a brief item, nothing new. CBS-TV nothing. I did not get ABC-TV.

Best,