

WxPost-assassinations story

HW 11/23/76

Ron Kesler phoned me tonight to ask me if a certain name meant anything to me. I've forgotten what it is. I recall it had three or four e's, ending in two, and was not a long name. However, I explained two things to him: that I might have forgotten and that there was a flood of FBI irrelevancies to hide the non-investigation reality. He actually agreed.

When I told him that I do not want to pry, have no interest in stealing anything and that if he could tell me more perhaps it might mean something he was unwilling so I did not push.

We talked for a while, including about the Goshko piece of 10 days ago. He is fully aware of how bad it was. He had nothing to say when I suggested the Post could expose what DJ had done, knowing they would not.

He was so cued in on this that when I told him the Post had the definitive answer available by phone and didn't use it and in its library and didn't look at it he knew. When I cited CE 2952 he actually said the volume was then open in front of him.

I told him he did not have to respond but perhaps I could be helpful. That some time back I'd heard that the Post had put him and Larry Stern on the assassinations story. If so I could help. He hedged and fudged on Stern. What came out, which may be all, is that they had worked on one story together, that's all. But he did say that he is on the story.

I was surprised at what he knew. For example, in trying to give him understanding I referred to the ex. sess of 1/22/64 in PM. He said he had read it and that it was "good."

He said he'd be in touch, in the sense that he'd be checking more out with me when he ~~xxxxx~~ felt I might be able to help. I told him I would and wished him well in his assignment.

W We did talk ~~xxxxx~~ about the House committee for a little while. He said nothing.

I am inclined to believe that he has spent some time on this and that whichever way it will angle, if any, the Post is serious. I doubt he is on ~~ing~~. He gave no indication if he is. JFK is too much anyway.

He is a strange one. He calls for help and gives no clues. Either I know the name or I do not. Nothing else counts. Maybe he can't conceive that I have no personal interest in his stories but it should occur to him that if I forgot the name my recollection could be triggered. He has to know that I write no articles. It is almost paranoid. This is not the first time like this.

As he thought what the Post did with the DJ leak was bad he agreed what the committee did with the "destruction of evidence" nonsense also was bad.

His directness on how bad the Goshko story was is not what I expected. He was entirely without any defense of it or the failure to check it. He even confirmed that the leak was of CD 1359. He knew that Slawson and Coleman were in charge of that area of the WC's work. This leads me to believe that someone has been briefing him. I do not think that on his own he could have picked up these details.

After the Goshko story appeared I heard that the Post had a reporter in Miami. I thought they'd sent him. The one story this could have been was with a double by-line, one George Gardner's. Not his. I recall no story of his since, despite the number of DJ stories he has been on recently.