

Legend - more on the legend of it

HW 5/5/78

George Stein of the Charlotte (N.C.) News (704/3474-7437) phoned me this afternoon seeking information on Nosenko, especially locating him in North Carolina, for a local human interest story. ("Would it surprise you to know that Nosenko still lives in North Carolina?")

I think he said he had spoken to Epstein, who was in France, and that Epstein said he did not know how to reach Nosenko. (This would be consistent with what Gardner earlier told me, that when it became apparent to Nosenko what tack Epstein was taking Nosenko did not reappear for Epstein again.)

Stein has been in touch with Readers Digest, which tells him it is regularly in touch with Epstein, who is to be away for two months. They have numbers in France and in England and gave them to Stein. (At the England number, when Epstein was not there, the person answering the phone claimed not to know him or where he was.)

Angleton also claimed not to know where Nosenko is.

I spent all the time Stein wanted trying to help him, making suggestions, etc.

His public relations contact at Readers Digest, Nancy Lanoue, is not a public relations person from the description in the book, "Nancy, Lanoue, who undertook the formidable task of coordinating the research and the manuscript. She also resolved many of the most difficult research problems and made substantial contributions to the text, footnotes and appendices. ...#(P. xv)

Her phone is 212/972-8421. She says she can get in touch with Epstein at any time.

While going over material with Stein I decided to check out the changes in the book. I recalled and found a promotion in an unidentified publication, from Golioff. It has the book scheduled for 10/7/77 publication at \$15.95. It has a different title and a different number of pages (320). The title comes from both the facsimile of the cover and the head on the story. The story, I think significantly, makes no reference to Nosenko at all, none to Angleton or that major part of the book. In combination I think it means the book was altered and expanded after Angleton, accounting for the delay and the surrender of the lucrative Xmas market. The time of actual appearance is not a good time for books. Probably the poorest time of the year, or just after it.

I don't know how Readers Digest works but it would not seem probable that with a normal book the wheeler/macher would also handle p.r. or that a p.r. person would be in the macher role Epstein attributes to Lanoue.