

Whatever Became of the Truth?

By Jack Anderson

Jackie Robinson, the gray-ing hero of the baseball diamond, was too trusting when he took Attorney General Richard Kleindienst and FBI chief Pat Gray at their word.

We had testified on Capitol Hill that Robinson wound up in the Secret Service files after he "visited a White House gate one day to inquire about the President's black capitalism program."

Disturbed over our testimony, Robinson sought an explanation from the Justice Department. Afterward, he told the press that Kleindienst and Gray had called our report "a lot of bull."

It's Kleindienst and Gray who are spreading the bull. We have a copy of Jackie Robinson's Secret Service file, No. C02 39700 01911, which contains a full report on the White House gate incident. We have offered to send the old slugger a xeroxed copy.

The Secret Service keeps a computerized file of people who might pose a potential threat to the President. Jackie Robinson was included on Jan. 25, 1969—five days after President Nixon took office.

Robinson joined a group of blacks who visited the northwest gate of the White House unannounced. The Secret Service prepared a memo on the incident, assigned Robinson a file number and fed his name into the computer. He

was listed, however, as "not dangerous."

The report on Robinson's appearance at the gate was prepared by Special Agent Thomas N. Schriver, who wrote that Robinson and his associates "arrived at 4 p.m. at the northwest gate of the White House, and stated . . . that they wanted to see the President. . . ."

(Special Agent Charles Zboril . . . and John Price, White House staff, met with this group at the gate. Mr. Price invited Jackie Robinson, and only him, to meet him (Price) in the EOB (Executive Office Building). Robinson turned down this invitation.

"The group informed Mr. Price the reason they wanted to see the President was that they wanted more jobs for the black people, and also wanted the President to define black capitalism."

Footnote: A Justice Department spokesman explained that the Kleindienst-Gray response to Robinson's inquiry was based upon information furnished by the Secret Service. The Secret Service explained that Robinson's name was included in the data bank because he tried to call upon the President "without an appointment." But a spokesman added that the Secret Service does not consider Robinson a threat to the President.

Wifely Advice

Mrs. Hubert Humphrey telephoned her husband the other

day about his bruising campaign against George McGovern.

The two families had been the best of neighbors; Muriel Humphrey and Eleanor McGovern were fond friends; their children had grown up together. When George McGovern was sick, Hubert Humphrey had carried hot soup next door to his bedside.

"Look, Daddy, I want you to carry on your campaign," Muriel told her husband gently. "But when it's all over, we must talk to the McGoverns and get together with them."

Not long afterward, Humphrey took McGovern aside for a few frank, friendly words.

"You may feel that I've roughed you up on these issues," said Humphrey, "but my statements will look kindly compared to what Nixon and his people will say."

Humphrey suggested it was better for McGovern to have his views challenged now, so he could clarify them before meeting President Nixon in the finals.

"When this is over, if you win the nomination," said Humphrey, "you won't have to reach out. I'll be there."

From out of grim, grey Carandiru prison in Brazil, a group of prisoners has sent us a poignant message through a network of intermediaries.

They learned in early June that they would be split up

and transferred from Sao Paulo's Carandiru to other prisons throughout Brazil. Because they had dared to protest against inhumane conditions in the prison, they feared they were being transferred to break up their group and to kill them quietly and individually.

Their first appeals went to the director of the crowded prison and to the pastor of Sao Paulo's Roman Catholic Church, Archbishop Paulo Evaristo Arns, who had protected them in the past. They announced a hunger strike to protest the transfers.

But, as the smuggled message to us relates: "On June 7, three Dominican priests and three other political prisoners were transferred to Presidente Venceslau (prison) on the Mato Grosso border." The prison is distant from any large city.

"Other political prisoners were also transferred to unknown places. . . . The Brazilian military dictatorship intends to assassinate in the dungeons all those prisoners thought to be radical leaders."

The prisoners added that the military, which controls Brazil's worst prisons, had refused to allow Archbishop Arns to talk with the prisoners.

When this avenue failed, they sent word to us that "the survival of all prisoners" depended on help from all those "who love justice."

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