

10/2/70

Dear Bud,

The four unidentified paragraphs from someone's letter that you sent me are very interesting.

With reference to Patrick Arguello:

The name seemed familiar. I find that a similar name also is connected with the RFK reporting, that of Antonio Argueda Mondrette (from my handwriting, so this is only approximate). He is mentioned in a New York Times story of 8/11/68. Now I know similarity means nothing, but with both sources the papers, I thought I'd report this to you for whatever value it may or may not have to you and your correspondent.

From the inference of these paragraphs, I suggest that you remind your correspondent that in the recent, multiple hijackings, the first was accompanied with a demand for Sirhan's release. This was then made to appear as unauthorized and to have been denied, which is false. There was a cute ploy for which the press went, quite uncritically. The demand was made, was made by the hijackers themselves, and then, when the reaction was very bad, was made to seem an error and not to have been intended by a simple device. I do not now recall which is the case, but it was one of these two: another guerrilla organization denied it had ever made the demand, or the headquarters of the group involved denied that it had. However, the hijackers themselves certainly did, and all else is irrelevant. I have old quotes from the father Sirhan that would be relevant if this is carried to a definitive end. In fact, in the first part of COUP I have a relevant chapter, The El-Biri Emissary.

If your correspondent wants to go way out, there is an Arab student in the Marine story, as I recall his name, Mohammed Reggab. It didn't check out well, but it also is not definitive.

It is not as unusual as your correspondent seems to think for onewith Nicaraguan ancestry to be mixed in Arab activities. There seems to be considerable Latin interest, from the left to my knowledge and I'd assume from the more extreme right, too, but here I have no knowledge.

Should you desire to try and carry these California leads forward, I may know who out there could be helpful if these are not left links. Depends on who does it. I have no left sources who would say, if they knew.

There is reference to Walden Jones. If this is to be checked, he was rarely known as "Walden". I do not recall how he styled himself, but it was by his middle name, which escapes me, which it shouldn't, because I was part of an investigation of him in his earlier career, when he was in public relations. Almost any old hand on the Washington papers would recall it if your correspondent does not. This may be something reported to him, something he does not himself recall or he'd have the name. It was something like W. Preston Jones, only it wasn't Preston. The incident is correct, but incomplete as presented. His Jones was a close buddy of Ike's, or rather, in Ike's later day, had become one. I think he was one of those who made gifts to the farm that Ike used for his considerable loot, especially his Angus stock. There were also such items as bulls, tractors, etc. I think even the remodeling of the house (and that was quite a job-I saw it when I was there). This guy was a constant golfing companion of Ike's, and others. This crash was in California. The sum given may be correct, but I think it was more. I also seem to recall that it was in connection with a campaign. I may easily be wrong, but I have a dim recollection of a Cities Service connection. The crash occurred when Jones was on his way out to see Ike, who was there, likely at  
Palm Springs. HW

At the moment I am fascinated by the fact that Patrick Arguello, who was shot while on the hijack job with Liela Kaled, was a student at University of California and that he was in the Middle East for a training period early in the summer of 1969. He was also back there just before the hijacking attempt.

The question is; How did an American-born Nicaraguan get mixed up with the Arabs? The first lead I would follow would be Ahmed Kamal's organization, which was California-based. (Waldo Drake, formerly European bureau chief for Los Angeles Times, is now retired and living in California. He came across Kamal in Geneva when Kamal was raising money in America for the Algerians)

In the paperback edition of Algeria in Turmoil, Michael Clark mentions Kamal on pages 186, 359, 359n and 360. In 1962 Ibrahim Rogard, 30th Avenue, San Mateo, California, was running an office there for Kamal's Jamiat-al-Islam, while Kamal was traveling for the Algerians in Eastern Europe. Mrs. Rauza I. Rogard was secretary and treasurer of his organization and I believe the Jamiat was listed under her address in San Francisco 2. Walden Jones, of Anglo-Arabian Oil Co., was giving them large sums at that time, until his death in a plane crash on March 1, 1962, when he was either coming from a meeting with Ike or on his way to one with \$45,000 in his briefcase.

It would be interesting to know where Kamal and the Rogards are at this moment and what they are doing. To me, Arguello's California background would link him up with them, in which case there may be other non-Arabs that have been recruited for the Arab jobs.