

7/3/69

Dear Mac,

AP moved a story with this lead for a.m. papers 7/1:

"An investigator for a Senate subcommittee probing urban violence testified Monday a right-wing publishing house is selling Army manuals on guerrilla warfare to radical groups such as the Black Panthers and the Minutemen.

"Philip M. Manuel, the investigator, told the Senate permanent subcommittee on investigations that Panther Publications, of Boulder, Colo., is circulating a catalogue of British and United States army manuals on head-to-head conflict and demolitions.....

"Asked by chairman John L. McClellan, D., ARK., if the firm were managed by white persons, Manuel replied, "as far as we know".

If Manuel knew no more than this, he knew nothing and this was free advertising for the publisher and no more than propaganda by the Committee.

This house and this man get attention in one of my limited editions, one of the three books I've had done for a while and cannot afford to print. There is much more to that house and that man, but if I were to guess, I'd suggest Manuel did not want to put in the record what McClellan and his more influential constituents might find uncongential.

Matter of fact, this is a small part of one of the things I've been wanting to tell you about. It is part of one of the more shocking suppressions of the FBI and Warren Commission. I can hardly believe the committee asked the FBI what they had on Panther Publications. The man who runs it is a graduate of two Army intelligence schools, is a reserve officer who last year told a friend of mine he had been called back to active duty and that he was still in intelligence. He was in the "School Battalion, Ft. Benning Ga." at the time of the assassination. Earlier one of the more vicious of the extreme rightists trusted him enough to make what he considered a proposition to kill JFK - and he failed to report it! His for starters. Ft. Benning then had the Cuban training, and he was in that. He actually has supplied this literature to the more extreme racists through the south and the rest of the country. He provides the techniques and data on weapons and a few weapons. To tie his with blacks it to herde pennies and waste dollars.

Nonetheless, I'd much appreciate a set of galleys of this testimony, if that is not too much trouble, and the hearings when they are printed. I am now making additions to that book.

If you see Mike and not me, he should recall this material. I showed enough of it to him so he could background you on it if the occasion arose. But, he may by now have forgotten it. Unfortunately, I cannot.

I did not see this story in the DC papers. It is in the New Orleans paper that arrived today.

Best to Ann and the boys.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg