

Dear Jon,

I meant to phone you earlier today about several matters but I had many calls and did not have the chance until you had to be on deadline.

In the past several weeks I've had several queries from reporters, do I know a Livingston in Washington who is a Zodiac stringer? I don't, as I guess you know.

Today's inquiry was from one who is not friendly toward the Gonzalez faction.

The first was when Gonzalez people sat him with them on the podium at the committee's hearing of after all but Gonzalez walked out, I'm not sure now.

The clear inference, which may be unfair, is that he is using you as a cover and really is with Gonzalez.

You may or may not care if your people are partisans or activists. It makes no difference to me. I do not know him. Never spoke to him that I can recall. But I tell you in the event you have a policy.

The newest committee development is that there is a compromise working, Sprague gives up being ~~general~~ staff director. I have no first-hand info but the source is a very good one on this committee.

If there is no compromise I believe it is possible that at the end of the time this committee was given to come up with something there may be a new resolution. If this is part of a polite way to get rid of Gonzalez it will be offered by one selected by the leadership. Generally the one who offers the resolution becomes chairman. Tip O'Neill can get that resolution passed and tell "Gonzalez he is saving Gonzalez' face. My hunch is that something like this has a better chance of being worked out while Gonzalez is flu-bound in Texas, as he is.

This can also be used as a lever on Gonzalez if O'Neill wants him to continue but with Sprague.

My belief is that if Sprague continues in any reduced capacity and with a reduced budget he is there for other than the public welfare.

There is a favor you can do me and I ask if if you can. I am assuming that you have clients in Boston and perhaps a stringer there. Tonight WBZ TV taped or aired a panel show on which George McMillan was the guest. I'd like very much to have a tape of it. It can be important. Important enough for me to consider asking for fairness doctrine time even though I would be going up there with no prospect of selling a book from it. Would you please try? Thanks.

Besides, I think there may just be an item in it for you. I'll tell you if there is.

The reason I believe there can be is because one of the panelists, who caught me on the Lou Gordon show, called me just before the taping/show. It was not until later that I remembered I did not write his name down or ask him his address. But if he got to ask some of the questions we discussed it might provide an item for you.

If you have not thought of it then I remind you that the line of the DJ King report is that of the Freed-Cohen-Hagin crew and their story they almost got the Nashville Tennessean to use: Ray is the assassin and Jerry is a co-conspirator. If you got a copy after I suggested it to you you will know.

I don't know if it is that politics makes strange bedfellows or bedfellows makes strange politics. If you've picked anything up since the second Panther piece I'd like to know. The first two were long on rhetoric and short on fact or the pretense of it.

Best,