

JDW,

Harold Ober Associates

3/11/75

This is to consult your recollections on a name so that I won't have to go through countless pounds of clippings, which would mean I'd not do it.

If you did not notice it, WxPost 2/28/75 had an obit on Anne Reid Ober, widow of Harold, founder of the literary agency bearing his name, Harold Ober Associates.

About this two things: A friend, when I was working on the ~~xxxx~~ first WG book, referred me to a friend of his one, Peter Shepherd, at this agency. Shepherd first was discouraging, saying that the project was beyond the capacity of any one man. Clearly, false.

The parts to which he took special exception and pretended could not possibly be true were two very rough, unread chapters I sent, in my own trusting way, to give him sample of what was not coming out and what was true and solidly true.

These were CIA chapters and Hughes chapters. Among the content I remember was the ~~xxxxxxx~~ Greenspun break-in.

In two years, even after planted leaks on these subjects, all that was in those roughs has not come out.

Nor has Shepherd thought of dropping a note to suggest my, my how clearly you did see so far in advance. Maybe I ought take a second look at what you've done since.

vi Now down in the bottom of the obit is the name of the widow's surviving Washington son: Richard.

It seems to me that this is the name of one of the cats who was deep into prohibited CIA domestic activity, one who had to be shifted out, into either NSA or DIA after the scandals broke.

If this is the case, then the possibilities are quite provocative.

Ober is not that common a name.

Once we know if Richard is the name of the shifted spook, we can then undertake to see if there is more than one Richard.

VIEW NEXT PAGE=A SKIP TO ABSTRACT #=8//# NEXT STEP=C
(C)NYTIMES. SEE ABSTRACT FOR YEAR. NONTIMES MATERIAL BY PERMISSION
1 OF 6 WP /JNL 1975- 2-11 : 6: 6 4/WGT 8/LIN
452-18-63 931508/IDN

FORMER CIA COUNTERINTELLIGENCE CHIEF JAMES J ANGLETON REPTDLY
TESTIFIES TO ROCKEFELLER COMM ON FEB 10 '75 THAT HE KNEW
NOTHING OF DOMESTIC SPYING BY CIA; REPTDLY SAYS THAT SECRET
UNIT, HEADED BY RICHARD OBER, REPTD DIRECTLY TO THEN DIR
RICHARD M HELMS; REPTDLY SAYS THAT ACTIVITIES WERE PROPER;
LATER ISSUES STATEMENT SAYING THAT CHARGES OF DOMESTIC SPYING
PUB BY NY TIMES ARE ENTIRELY FALSE; VICE PRES ROCKEFELLER
COMMENTS ON HEARINGS (M)

2 OF 6 NYT/JNL 1975- 2- 4 : 17: 1 4/WGT 7/LIN
35-75-63 AP /SRC 985248/IDN

VICE PRES ROCKEFELLER SAYS HIS COMM'S INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGED
DOMESTIC SPYING BY CIA MIGHT REQUIRE MORE THAN THE 3-MO PERIOD
SET BY PRES FORD; PANEL HEARS FURTHER TESTIMONY FROM RICHARD
OBER, WHO ONCE REPTDLY HEADED COUNTERINTELLIGENCE GROUP, WHICH
CIA DIR WILLIAM E COLBY HAS CONCEDED KEPT FILES ON 10,000
AMERS; OBER IS NOW ON STAFF OF NATL SECURITY COUNCIL; COMM
HEARS FROM LYMAN B KIRKPATRICK JR, FORMERLY NO. 3 MAN AT FBI (S)
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VIEW NEXT PAGE=A SKIP TO ABSTRACT #=8//# NEXT STEP=C
(C)NYTIMES. SEE ABSTRACT FOR YEAR. NONTIMES MATERIAL BY PERMISSION
3 OF 6 NYT/JNL 1975- 1-28 : 1: 4 6/WGT 18/LIN
28-75-15 PHO/ILS 900077/IDN

SEN VOTES, 82-4, ON JAN 27 TO CREATE SPECIAL COM TO INVESTIGATE
OPERATIONS OF CIA, FBI AND MORE THAN A DOZEN OTHER INTELLIGENCE
AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES OF GOVT; SEN F CHURCH IS EXPECTED
TO BE NAMED CHMN; SEN M MANSFIELD ALSO NAMES TO PANEL DEM SENS
P A HART, W F MONDALE, W D HUDDLESTON, G W HART AND R MORGAN;
REPUBS APPTD LAST WK TO PANEL BY SEN H D SCOTT NOTED; SENS J A
HELMS, W L SCOTT, S THURMOND AND H E TALMADGE VOTED AGAINST
CREATION OF PANEL; SENS PROMISE NOT TO ALLOW PANEL'S HEARINGS
TO DEVELOP INTO 'TELEVISION SPECTACULAR' AND PLEDGE TO RESTRICT
KIND OF UNAUTHORIZED LEAKS OF INFORMATION THAT HAUNTED SEN
WATERGATE COM; PRES FORD'S CIA INVESTIGATING COM, HEADED BY
VICE PRES ROCKEFELLER, HEARS TESTIMONY FROM CIA DIR WILLIAM E
COLBY AND FORMER CIA AGENT RICHARD OBER IN 3D DAY OF CLOSED
HEARINGS; CHURCH SAYS HE CANNOT RECONCILE CIA'S ACTIVITIES IN
CHILE 'WITH THE PROFFESSED PRINCIPLES' OF US; CHURCH SAYS HIS
EARLIER CRITICISM OF CIA 2 YRS AGO WILL NOT AFFECT HIS ABILITY
TO CONDUCT FAIR INQUIRY; SENS J G PASTORE, J G TOWER AND A
CRANSTON COMMENT; ILLUS OF CHURCH AND HART (L)
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(C)NYTIMES. SEE ABSTRACT FOR YEAR. NONTIMES MATERIAL BY PERMISSION
4 OF 6 NYT/JNL 1975- 1-19 20: 4 6/WGT 29/LIN
19- 4-34 895443/IDN

FORMER HIGH-LEVEL CIA MEMBERS SAY IN TELEPHONE INTS THAT, TO THEIR KNOWLEDGE, CIA'S SUPERSECRET COUNTERINTELLIGENCE DIV NEVER MADE WRITTEN REPTS ON ITS SENSITIVE ACTIVITIES TO FORMER CIA DIR RICHARD HELMS OR OTHER TOP CIA OFFICIALS; SAY JAMES ANGLETON AND HIS KEY DEPUTY IN CIA'S COUNTERINTELLIGENCE UNIT, RICHARD OBER, WERE BELIEVED TO HAVE MADE ORAL REPTS TO HELMS; FORMER CIA UNDERCOVER AGENT, WHO SAYS HE PARTICIPATED IN DOMESTIC BREAK-INS AND WIRETAPS WHILE MONITORING RADICALS IN NYC IN LATE '60S AND EARLY '70S, SAYS HE NEVER RECD ADVANCE WRITTEN APPROVAL NOR DID HE EVER FILE SUBSEQUENT WRITTEN REPTS ON SENSITIVE MISSIONS; THESE AND OTHER FORMER CIA AGENTS ALL QUESTION WHETHER CIA REPT ON DOMESTIC SPYING MADE AVAILABLE THIS WK BY CIA DIR WILLIAM E COLBY IS, IN FACT, ACCURATE; COLBY CITED ONLY 3 BREAK-INS, WHICH HE SAID ALL INVOLVED PAST AND PRESENT CIA EMPLOYEES, AND TOTAL OF 21 TELEPHONE WIRETAPS, 19 OF THEM STEMMING FROM ACTIVITIES OF PAST AND PRESENT AGENTS; SOURCES SAY THERE WERE A NUMBER OF CIA-DIRECTED WIRETAPS AND BREAK-INS IN US IN LAST 10 YRS AIMED AT RADICALS AND OTHER DISSIDENT GROUPS; SAY SOME OF THESE ACTIVITIES WERE CONDUCTED BY OUTSIDE 'CONTRACT' OPERATIVES WHO WERE PAID IN CASH AND PROVIDED WITH NO RECORDS OR PAPERS TO INDICATE THAT THEY WERE WORKING ON BEHALF OF CIA; FORMER OFFICIAL WHO SERVED WITH ANGLETON ACKNOWLEDGES THAT FEW OPERATIONAL REPTS WERE MADE IN WRITING; SAYS ANGLETON SEEMED TO HAVE LITTLE CONFIDENCE IN CIA DIRS BECAUSE THEY WERE POL APPOINTEES; THIS IS CONFIRMED BY ?

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(C)NYTIMES. SEE ABSTRACT FOR YEAR. NONTIMES MATERIAL BY PERMISSION
ANOTHER FORMER CIA OFFICIAL; ANGLETON SERVED IN CIA FOR 27 YRS; HE REFUSES COMMENT; SOURCE CLOSE TO ANGLETON TAKES EXCEPTION TO SUGGESTION THAT HELMS AND OTHER HIGH CIA OFFICIALS DID NOT KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON INSIDE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE DIV (L)
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(C)NYTIMES. SEE ABSTRACT FOR YEAR. NONTIMES MATERIAL BY PERMISSION
5 OF 6 NYT/JNL 1974-12-22 : 1: 8 6/WGT 48/LIN
356-74-20 PHO/ILS 877744/IDN

GOVT SOURCES REPT THAT CIA, DIRECTLY VIOLATING ITS CHARTER, CONDUCTED MASSIVE, ILLEGAL DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE OPERATION DURING NIXON ADM AGAINST ANTIWAR MOVEMENT AND OTHER DISSIDENT GROUPS; PROBE BY NY TIMES (S M HERSH) ESTABLISHES THAT INTELLIGENCE FILES ON AT LEAST 10,000 AMER NATLS WERE MAINTAINED BY CIA SPECIAL UNIT THAT RPTD DIRECTLY TO RICHARD A HELMS, THEN CIA DIR AND NOW AMB TO IRAN; CHECK OF CIA DOMESTIC FILES ORDERED IN '73 BY HELMS'S SUCCESSOR, JAMES R SCHLESINGER, PRODUCED EVIDENCE OF DOZENS OF OTHER ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES BY CIA MEMBERS INSIDE US, BEGINNING IN '50S, INCLUDING BREAK-INS, WIRETAPPING AND SURREPTITIOUS INSPECTION OF MAIL; ALLEGED OPERATIONS IN '50S, WHILE BARRED BY LAW, WERE NOT TARGETED AT DISSIDENT AMER NATLS, BUT WERE CARRIED OUT AS PART OF OPERATIONS AIMED AT SUSPECTED FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE AGENTS OPERATING IN US; HELMS CANNOT BE REACHED DESPITE PHONE CALLS; SCHLESINGER AND PRESENT CIA DIR WILLIAM E COLBY ARE KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN DISTRESSED BY ALLEGED ACTIVITIES; COLBY KEPTDLY HAS TOLD ASSOCS THAT HE IS WEIGHING LEGAL ACTION AGAINST SOME OF THOSE INVOLVED; 1 OFFICIAL SAYS THAT SCHLESINGER AND ASSOCS WERE UNABLE TO LEARN WHAT FORMER PRES NIXON KNEW, IF ANYTHING, ABOUT ALLEGED SPYING; HIGH-RANKING AMER INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS CONFIRM BASIC ACCURACY OF TIMES'S INFORMATION BUT CAUTION AGAINST DRAWING 'UNWARRANTED CONCLUSIONS'; CONTEND THAT ALL DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES AGAINST AMER NATLS WERE INITIATED IN BELIEF THAT FOREIGN GOVTS AND FOREIGN ESPIONAGE MAY HAVE BEEN

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