

Dear Jim,

5/30/76

Tad Szulc's New Republic piece headlined in the 5/28/76 Star "The FBI-CIA Cover-Up of JFK Slaying Data" is a clever bit of propaganda the purposes of which are carried forward by the unfactual lead. There is no "slaying data" in the story nor is there the allegation that any evidence of the slaying was withheld by anyone.

Only the possible explanation of motive was allegedly withheld. Szulc could infer this by assuming the correctness of the Commission's conclusions about the lone assassin. So he merely assumed them.

I've made a few notes on the story but I'm not going to take time for more.

It is an effort to stifle all Kennedy and LBJ politicians hidden as an exposure.

It is remarkable for its indefiniteness, as on almost all dates, and for its simple but important factual error, like there was no prior knowledge of the LHO note and it was to the Dallas police, not the Dallas FBI.

It is consistent with what has been the line of virtually all recent stories. They are all so consistent one wonders. They not only assume the lone assassin bit - they assume the anti-Castro angle (sometimes inferring maybe ~~perhaps~~ both sides could have been involved or the other one) which has JFK responsible for his own offing; and they assume the innocence of the Warren Commission. I can't think of a single story of this kind that did not assume the Commission's purity.

Szulc was fed this stuff. He lacks knowledge of basic fact. I'm inclined to think not from the Senate unless from Hart. What does this leave as his source of the quoted CIA documents?

The continuing question about Szulc is where does he come from. I don't mean Poland via Brazil.

If you see the full NR text it may be longer than this story.