

Dear Jim, You know I've had a working theory from the first that Mullen/Bennett was very important in WC and thereafter that Colson, who was escaping attention, required it. As I put the book together I have at least three chapters on each. I'd done everything possible on WW IV until it is reshot and I have new blues to check, had written sales letters to boredom so on wearying last night I thumbed Vol 21, Hughes-Rebozo, thru the Caulfield testimony. So as I dozed. The staff let him remember nothing and keep asking to have his recollection refreshed. This obviously meant he wasn't talking and they weren't making him talk. When he'd hear if they had some proof he might remember part of it. Terrible, confirming worst Whitewashing beliefs.

It took me a half hour to read the last page and I don't recall a word, I slept that much. But when I started into the documents I suddenly came to. I saw one that I think was ripped off: not the subject of real questioning and confirming what I'd recalled and believed from early on 23H9747. You remember it is not the many oath that make the truth. Nor is it the many documents that establish fact. Here, in a significantly-timed memo--fortnight after Bennett took Mullen over and for a different purpose, to involve Agnew and build Bennett up, Colson spells out the relationship, "trusted loyalist and a good friend." The latter has to be of both exGL and Colson. Another thing I can't find but do remember is that Colson worked on the earlier, think 1966, Sr. Bennett re-election campaign.

Earlier accounts are that Bennett took Hughes account to Mullen with him. But he had been a federal employee, at DOT. Here Colson says "One of Bob's new clients is Howard Hughes." That Mormon Mafia moved very fast for it to be past tense in 15 days! Maybe someone else helped speed it up?

Suppose Roy Goodearle on Agnew staff. Do you recall name?

Interesting that Colson wrote "Confidential" on original, did not have it typed on so it would be on all copies. Why confidential if normal political operation? ...

I'd found it difficult to concentrate after my phone call, memo sent in plain envelope yesterday without mailing sticker. I was at end draft Harlan piece when call came and could not ~~xxxxxx~~ resume it as this early a.m. I now will. Draft for editor fried who is about to leave on vacation until end Spet., when Harlan probably will not be worth what it can be today so I've treated as human interest and personal recall of terror. Outside our hearings I don't think the story has every been told in full. It would make a thesis-book. Best HW 8/31.74