

Perhaps of no importance, but to complete the picture of Abraham's Civic Center stock holdings, he was one of the first to sell out after initial organization. On March 2, 1966, he converted his 200 shares into 3 blocks of 50 each and 2 of 25 (retaining 25 shares of the latter.). The transfer sheets indicate 25 shares went to George M. Leavitt, 205 W. Wacker Dr., Chgo, 60606; 50 to Annette Margolis, 808 W. Lake St., Chgo, 60607, 50 to Manny L. Margolis (same address) and 50 to Aaron Schwartz, 3025 West Fargo, Chgo, 60645.

In another case, one William A. Barnett, 54, law offices at 1111 N. La Salle St. and an apparent home address of 3111 N. Wood, was described in COT of 12/16/71 as one of Abraham's best-known lawyers on federal tax litigation. His clients are William S. Miller, racing board chairman under whom he has offered state's evidence against Kerner, and John Keith McInturf, Miller's personal secretary.

Transfer sheets of Civic Center Bank show in the first large distribution by Ted Issacs on Sept. 21, 1966, a block of 350 shares (on 7 certificates of 175 each) going to a William A. Barnett, 1126 South Walnut St., Springfield, Illinois.

These certificates (602 and 603) on Sept. 2, 1966, were transferred from Barnett to Meredith Rhule, 824 West Capitol Av., Springfield. Rhule was administrative assistant to Ray Pace, Republican Superintendent of Public Instruction.

(An Elwyn Barnett at during this period was chief examiner of the Drivers' License Division under Paul Powell as Secretary of State.)

On the same date (Sept. 2, 1966) as Barnett transferred 350 shares to Rhule, an original holder of 500 shares, Gail M. Vanless, 426 S. 5th St., Springfield, who was listed in the 1969 Illinois Bank Directory as president of Capitol Bank and Trust Company of Springfield, transferred his entire holdings to Meredith Rhule.

I have notes that indicate William A. Barnett formerly was in the state Insurance Department and is now a Springfield real estate man.

Question: Is William A. Barnett related to William H. Barnett or Elwyn Barnett, or are the latter two related.

continued...

12/26/72

*Back*

Henry---

I have a somewhat pessimistic outlook or feeling about some of the implications of the Watergate Affair.

I think tradeoff time has arrived. And that some of the trades may involve the work our "friends" are developing, perhaps even extending to the the Kerner case.

All of this is nebulous at the moment since I do not have the facilities to prove or disprove readily (though I would dearly like to spend some time on it). So ~~you~~ keep in mind the expressions herein contained are entirely speculative.

First off, the enclosed Jack Anderson column of today: William O. Bittman, in prosecuting Hoffa, was doing NEK's bidding, as an assistant USDA. The same may have applied to the Bobby Baker prosecution (which, if you remember, brought up some strange stories about Swiss bank involvements, the names of Meyer Lansky, a fellow named Pullman, some Teamster investments, and some ties to Las Vegas gambling establishments) which was headed by Bittman, who was with Justice here in Chicago before going to Washington, D.C. for his private practice.

Abraham Bittman was an original stockholder of Civic Center Bank and Trust Co. with address in 1966 listed as 205 West Jackson Dr. By July, 1969, Chicago phone directory lists an office number at that address of FRanklin 2-7540. (He had 200 shares.) The '67 north suburban directory shows an Abraham Bittman at 9401 Kenneth, Skokie; also at same address Ellyce and Howard. The latter two have phone listing of 677-5676; Abraham is listed for ORchard 3-5536. (Aside from an Anton Bittman in Glen Ellyn and a dentist (Anthony J.) in Western Springs, no other phone book Bittmans are listed.)

Question: Is William O. Bittman, whose office phone number and two residence phone numbers were found in the purse of the late Mrs. E. Howard Hunt at the Midway plane crash site, related to Abraham who would appear to be an insider to Democrat slushments?

Another: Since William O. Bittman served under ~~and~~ a Democrat ~~NEK~~ USDA and presumably is a Democrat, how come he is representing Hunt who, some would allege, is being paid by the Republicans. And where are these funds coming from, as Anderson asks?

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The name of one Edward W. Miller, 214 South State St., Chicago, 60604 (is this an office building?) pops up from time to time as recipient of Civic Center ~~stock~~ stock through links that seem to say "racing connection."

Question: Is he related to William S. Miller?

There are at least two Teamster figures who obtained ~~stock~~ Civic Center stock also.

There are some ironies in this, to say the least, insofar as there are blood relationships among some of the persons and transactions cited.

A Democrat Justice Department prosecutes Hoffa, Nixon lets him out of jail. A Republican Justice Department prepares to prosecute Kerner but finds itself embarrassed by Watergate. A Hoffa prosecutor defends a alternate defendant (and could have Civic Center ties.) A Kerner defendant switches to a prosecution witness and is defended by a man who could have Civic Center ties. Kerner and Isaac have well established Civic Center ties and so do some Teamsters. Some state Republicans appear to have been on the receiving end of Civic Center transactions. Teamsters, through Central States, have had abstract investments, poor ones. A last-minute board member is shoved onto the state racing board before a Republican politician leaves office and the board then flies in the face of public opinion and rewards Miller with dates despite his indictment.

Too many actual, as well as a number of possible, intertwinements exist at high enough levels to easily dismiss my notion that the state is not for some tradeoffs which are not in the public interest.

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February 6, 1967, Jacob Rueben and Mrs. Libby Rueben, 1353 Lincoln Av. Highland Park, Ill. acquired stock certificate 1099 of Civic Center stock representing 100 shares. Rueben is an attorney for the Teamsters' Central States fund.