

Dear Jim,

5/30/74

You will recall that months ago I began expressing suspicions about Tad Szulc. Well, I've been writing and worked myself to a point where going over what I had separated out of his writing was necessary. Meaning stories, not the books, which I recall and recall having written about. The early reporting is exactly consistent and in no single instance not consistent with the suspicion. (You agreed on a later article, The View from Langley, on Chile).

By the time you can respond I will have written myself well past this part (I hope!). But if the answer is productive I can add. From mt files he had stories in the issues of 6-19/72--/23/72, inc. and one 7/7/72. I seem to recall one or more stories from Miami and Andy St. George said one of these led to his firing. So, without a lot of work, have you a record of others and if so, are they also with the significant seemingly minor errors that at the time of publication seem normal and without what most reporters, knowing it, would have included? (The advantage here is that he also wrote magazine articles and a book later and in them disclosed what he knew when. Or, there are some things he suppressed, like knowing Hunt-I was wrong in saying from Paris, from Miami- and not mentioning it; knowing of his plan to assassinate and ignoring that in his long NYTimes mag piece while quoting more than a page of what follows in the book. You see, I am certain I have his set of galleys and know also what he marked in them. What makes this more fascinating is that this "liberal" then wrote a piece for Esquire saying JFK was under intelligence - NOT CIA-pressure to approve a Castro assassination but that Ike had nixed one. Well, Hunt's was never nixed, according to Hunt. This kind of thing, over and over and over. And I have put together what I believe is an impressive connection of Nixon with all of this.)

A student is working several hours a day trying to put some order into my Hunt file. She is interested in the content, so she is reading it and while reading, making a summary. If anything turns up in it, I'll get it. I have an "early reporting" file on the break-in I'll be able to check fast. Ditto for Cubans. But I was not getting the Times regularly then. You sent what then seemed significant. Attached to 7/23 you had your 10/8/72, Woodward's So Long, Howard excerpt.

From a deposition I have it appears that Szulc's source not identified in his 7/7 is Boh Bennett or Liddy, and Liddy seems unlikely. But the timing is off. Hunt was back by then. Suggesting that Szulc was being used.

Bluntly, it now appears that there was on this overall story a heavy CIA penetration of both NYTimes and WxPost. What makes this even more fascinating is that one story identifies one of Buckley's lawyers, now Hunt's, as also formerly CIA. And in each case where I have noted a void in Who's Who, to Szulc, no exception, CIA history! Quite a coincidence? His name is Snyder. Baltimore. If JL can't get Who's Who on him and C. Dickerman Something-or-other in NYC I may ask you to see if you can on a library trip of future. File not ~~before~~ before me. Comes back, though, Williams. Baltimore is Wm. A. Snyder, Jr...New Buckley transcripts not yet here.

What I then called a CIA campaign vs Hunt and his self-concept seems no less apparent now and in a sense that seems to make Bennett part of it, while seeming not to be but a friend. Some is implausible, like quoting Colson as saying Hunt could be a WH contact with Hughes when Bennett brought the account with him and was first-name with all Nixon's honchos.

Hastily,