

12/15/72 When I got too tired for other things I resumed going over the more recent clips. I'm not up to seeking old files, which are not filed as neatly (?), but I thin at least one of those in the long NYT heroin-arrests story pf 11/18 is a figure in the Ben Barka case. Many thanks...Pearl, by the way, is now convinced her stuff on sources was wrong. I've asked her again to question herself on why Striso pumped this stuff into her. No answer yet. I think she may be here this month. This or next, it wasn't clear...Too bad some much time and energy get wasted. She can be delightful, by the way, and if she could get over her hangups could do a great Kaplan/Vidal story by telling it as it is, leaving the mysteries as mysteries, and not censoring the commercially-acceptable stuff out. It is authentic, so it should not be regarded as a concession to commercialism and against literary principle. What the hell, Kaplan's second "wife" was a whore, a legitimate, practising whore. He married her because he was being discriminated against, couldn't have a whore any other way. If it falls short of what most of us consider love (or at least I hope so), it is the way it was. Pearl knows the woman, has interviewed her at length and in depth, and could treat her with some sympathy. That and the mysteries and the international underworld of the wealthy could make a good book. I digress.

Freep 12/1/72 Nixon/Rebozo/Mafia: reminds me of a second intriguing possibility, the Commissar of Gambling under Castro is now alleged to have been Frank Fiorini Sturgis. In the draft of O in NO I have a story from Pearson/Anderson, I think from Parade and I think known to Hal of from him (I can't now find this story) about how the there-un-named commissar knocked the hoods down at the casinos and details of his high life. If this were really Fiorini, then there is another WG link. BeBe's wife's maiden name, according to Sundance, which went no further is Barker. Ain't too many Cubans so named.