

HW:

Many thanks for your special pains in sending us the WX Post clip for 25 March 73 on Rothblatt getting back into the case. That was a Sunday, so even if the NY Times had it we would have missed it. This looks, however, like a special Post workup, probably dropped into their lap by interested parties. One question that occurs to us: If a new trial is granted, does that impinge upon the ability of McCord or anyone of the seven defendants to testify before a Senate committee? If so, there is much method in this, and probably is anyway. Note that elsewhere McCord explained that he waited as long as he did to go to the Erwin committee because he was under the impression that he could not until his sentencing was completed. Much depends on Hunt, of course, who today was granted immunity in order to testify before the grand jury. No indication whether he'll still decline, but that should be decided tomorrow. We suspect much bad blood between GL and Helms. Could it be that the old boys who also are about to get the axe are rallying to help shut McCord up before he talks entirely too much? I see no reason why they should object to a certain amount of embarrassment to the GL faction, but after all you don't want to throw the baby out with the bath water. They may have much to work on. Like you, we have thought all along that the GL must have known if he didn't initiate, and all along we have been fascinated by the seemingly remote possibility of a connection with 22 Nov 63. With ~~xxx~~ his categorical statements about Dean, and with Martha Mitchell again seeking publicity to obfuscate Dear John's possibly impending ejection from the back of the fleeing troika, we are only strengthened in the belief we share with you that something much, much bigger is at stake. At any rate, the GL is now well out on his own special brand of limb (re Dean, anyway) and the line may be forming among those who would relish the job of sawing it off behind him. Even GOP wheels complaining. Tsk tsk.

JDW 28 Mar 73

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P.S.:

~~Amexk~~ Almost forgot to mention that the Rugaber NYT clip for 19mar we sent you -- an expansion on a earlier story from the SF Chronicle, concerned an interview with one Reinaldo Pico~~d~~ who said Rothblatt's old clients had believed the ~~WG~~ "operation had been countenanced by the White House and former presietndial aides at ... reelection committee." This appears to have been paving the way for the Rothblat~~s~~ move to get back into the case and move for a new trial.

jdw28mar73