

☒ 9 September 1973

HW:

I'm unable to accept the two attached Agnew stories as unrelated to one another. Too many question marks about each. Note that Spiro is now in unison with the chorus chanting the GL theme that it's time to get on with the peepul's business and leave Watergate to those partisan Democrats who are conspiring to wring the last drop of scandal from it. The Beale column about the girl has a new angle: that the Brazilian police denied the existence of repeated kidnap threats. Earlier stories said they consistently refused comment on reports of such threats. Whether the threats were genuine or fabricated, it appears Spiro has got the message: cooperate. Colby ?

From its inception, Project Hope has suggested itself as as a new and possibly peculiarly effective outlet for such energies as have been funnelled through such outfits as the Asia Foundation. If not actually crawling with operatives it certainly should have been well-staffed. There is perhaps a special kind of intelligence to be gathered from the medical community in each country the ship visits with impeccable entree and cover.

Know you don't read the Star-News regularly, but Ms. Beale might be one to keep an eye on. Don't know her, but her husband is an extremely able man. He was news editor for AP when I was there and as you know became chief of bureau after NY favorite Pat Morin was tried and turned out indifferently. He retired a few years ago, after which his wife's column began appearing. The Chron runs it only part of the time, on ~~Sundays~~ Sundays.

jdw