

16 Apr 72

Some time ago we sent you a copy of clipping from States-Item 2 Feb 72 on Garrett Trapnell. Have been watching for more but so far have only five other clippings, 30 Jan to 1 Feb, all very repetitive; none with the interesting details in the S-I; none mentions "Oswaldo." His father's name is not given. NYTimes 31 Jan (a Monday - incident occurred the previous Saturday - don't know what the Times might have carried on Sunday) names Mr. and Mrs. Philip Zang as his parents. Stepfather? This story was on next to last page of separate 42-page section on the economy of Africa, with TV and radio listings; page 83, total paper, 84 pages. By the following day, 1 Feb, even the name Zang is not mentioned, just "Trapnell's family in Miami" who had retained Nathaniel L. Barone Jr., as his lawyer. Don't think any of this is worth sending you, but if you do, let us know.

Forgot to mention we also have an editorial by Penn Jones which includes these two paragraphs: "The FBI started interviewing Trapnell in 1961. [Earliest date given by AP in S-I is 19 Aug 63.] In August 1963, he told the FBI of a plot to kill Robert Kennedy by pro-Castroites who had come to this country as refugees from Cuba. When President John Kennedy was shot, Trapnell thought the news media had made a mistake. He thought for sure it was Robert Kennedy.

"Trapnell had been adjudged insane. Some doctors deny that he is insane. He bragged he pulled the insanity bit to escape long sentences for armed robbery and other crimes. He claimed to have known Lee Harvey Oswald in Florida, but referred to him as Oswald. He later denied this story."

Jones also does not mention Trapnell's father. All of the other clippings we have deal only with the hijacking and its aftermath, with the exception of the S-I story.

As to the Vietnamese girl who lost a hand and was at least promised a get-well card from a Nixon daughter: sorry to have left you up in the air. You can come down now. Don't you know why Gen. Haig was sent so hurriedly to Vietnam, why the South Vietnamese Army is fighting like wildcats repelling the Commie hordes pouring across the so-called "neutral" DMZ in defiance of the Geneva Accords and the understanding of 1968? Gen. Haig was carrying secret instructions (memorized the whole thing; didn't dare commit them to paper). He was empowered to offer - to any who earned it - a get-well card. But this time with THE PRESIDENTIAL SEAL on it! (I wonder why Franz Schurmann hasn't mentioned this.)*

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From one of the clippings you sent: "With everything Chinese now the vogue, Turkish Ambassador Melih Esenbel's wife sticks antique chopsticks through her high-piled coiffure as ornaments." Unbelievable. Doesn't she know that in this country hair ornaments should be knives and forks?

*Haven't you wondered why you haven't heard recently of demonstrations against Dow Chemical? Wouldn't you feel rather silly demonstrating against a company making plastic with which to encase get-well cards? It's by ^{spotting and} putting together seemingly unrelated little bits like these that one can figure out what's going on.