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Wendy White Notes - [FBI] Office of Professional Responsibility Investigation of Howard Shapiro

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OPR Inquiry re
Howard Shapiro

December 12, 1996

Judith Wish / Keith Thomas

Kathy Wallman Interview

3:30 p.m.

Scope of inquiry - based upon
Cong. Livingston's ltr

K. W.'s Office

1. Aldrich Manuscript
2. Heads up W. House July 15, 1996
3. Interview of Sculombrini
4. Search of Sculombrini's Desk
5. July 25, 1996 Call & follow up ltr

K.W. Background

When started at White House

Never testified before

In Shapiro Dep. -

Said Quinn referred to comm. Did JQ ever testify? No.

I. When first recall Aldrich manuscript?

Don't rem. exact date. Feb. sounds about right.

Learned when H.S. brought manu. to JQ. Sometime in
the afternoon. Around 3:00 - approximately.

What did H.S. say?

He this is quite a manu. A lot of scurvy stuff
in here. May^h of concern to you in terms of security

Book was divided up to be read. KW, JQ + 4 or so others. Agreed there were legit concerns. People w/ access to conf. info were now w/ a book, ^{could} giving People in the future ^{might} panic about ^{giving} conf. ^{info.} Nevertheless, concluded W.H. should stay out of this.

KW did not take a look at emp. agreement. Her understanding of the process came from H.S. & Lisa Osavsky (later on). Called Lisa ~~to~~ a second time to confirm that book had gone thro pre-pub review.

Did KW ~~not~~ understand from A.S. that author might publish w/out clearance?

Judith ^{W.H.} asked about ad in Esquire. KW was unaware of that or any ~~published~~ publication.

Any mention of telephone system
→ Don't recall

Any other security issues raised?
Can't exclude but don't recall

Did A.S. say Dir. had authorized?

Don't recall. Never occurred to her this was needed
Thought disclosure to W.H. was proper.

Mention review of book to Deputy's office

Not contemporaneously. Possibly after book was in the news

Was there a cover ltr w/ manuscript?

ICW - doesn't recall one. (2/21/96)

Any other business w/ Jia? ^{at the mtg}

Don't recall

Time for less than 15 minutes.

May have been 3rd person in the room - doesn't remember who it was

Doesn't recall if she knew H.S. was coming over - or whether she happened to be in the office when H.S. came.

Tell the reviewers what to look for?

Book written by FBI agent. Does this raise concerns about b.i. process?

Anyone suggest the Sec. Serv. should review?

W.H. makes suitability determination. A.S. didn't suggest Sec. Serv. review. Never occurred to WH counsel to go to Sec. Serv. Wanted manual. handled carefully - in a guarded fashion because of scurrilous allegations.

Cheryl Mills, Chris Conf, Dawn Churwa, Marvin Krilov
were other readers.

First time she met A.S. was in the mtg when book dropped off.
She has seen him at other times in W.H. & Report on
procedures involving FBI files in June/July 1996.
Saw him in the W.H. Mes.

AS Talk to JA often?

No - seldom.

Kept 1 copy of manuscript after review. Turned over to
House Comm. No marginalia.

KW participated in no conv of FBI about book. Didn't hear
anything about the book until it was published.

II Insert

Monday in July. Call came to JA who was at the beach.
H.S. reached KW. We have ^{been} (Tom Kelly) trying to reach Jane S.
Time sensitive matter. Request from Clinger to review C.R. background
file. Found an insert. Insert recounts note of Skulumbien
that BN told him that HRC & C.L.'s mother were acquainted
& therefore somehow HRC worked for C.L. in his job.

3 items^m on the page.

2nd one - can't recall

3rd one - wasn't told.

Privacy
KW asked him to repeat PT item. KW said since
Privacy Act doesn't apply (any can see) H.S. said yes, w/ formalities
About to disclose to Comm. imminently. ^{AS} Thought since
about to give it to Ch. Clinger, should inform W.H. also
as well. Expected news in next day's paper.

Mentioned Counsel

Don't recall that?

Know BN was about to appear before g. j.?

No. If anyone knew in W.H. - Sam would know.

Thinks ^{said} H.S. he consulted w/ Dep't's office - but not sure.

Why was info surprising?

BN had said he had ~~zero~~ ^{zero} to do w/ C. L.'s
hiring and ~~had~~ believed FLOTUS played No role. ~~It~~
Surprising that BN would have any such links & not tell
anyone

Any mention of the ~~defect~~ Director ?

No recollection of that

What time did call come

Shortly after lunch. Approx. 2:00 pm

Any follow up w/ Dept ?

No she did not. Doesn't know if anyone else did.

Chart made collecting info - doesn't know if it reflects any such contacts.

Who did you tell ?

Jane S.

Jack Q.

H.S. place limits on dissemination ?

No. That made sense. H.S. thought it would be used publicly by Chr. Church - contemporaneously. No thought of I.C. council. Assumed IC. would also have access to info.

H.S. give you any other info like this

No.

When not a new that ride - what did you say?

Likely there were convs in the White House about what the all means.
 Some may have had further conv. ~~now~~ ~~don't~~ ~~know~~. ~~kw~~ did not.
 Info channeled back where it ~~was~~ belonged.

Did you continue to be involved

Don't recall any specific conversations after about the call after JQ & JS calls.

Viewed her role as getting info to Jane since HS couldn't reach Jane.

No further involvement until after Ch. Clinger rec'd on House floor. May have been some intramural conv about info before that - don't recall.

III Next day - interview of Schulzbrine

learned of this during floor statement by Clinger.

No advance Notice of any kind.

IV Call on July 25th (Letter on July 25th) to H.S.

There were intramural discussions about disparity between BN testimony & note in the file. Everyone knew Ch. Clinger had info & would imminently disclose.

states
 One of ~~these~~ ^{these} fact ~~statements~~ ^{statements} was not true. Some impetus to believe the insert was wrong. Question was how to say this to FBI in clear and appropriate way.

Call to A.S. was to confirm JQ & KW's instinct that it would ~~be a low key way to suggest~~ ~~this might be~~ ^{way to the} looked into be a ^{better} idea to suggest in a low key way to the FBI

to conduct an investigation. H.S. said we will ~~also~~ all be deposed about this conv. H.S. was being deposed at the time about W.H. contacts. KW was unaware of that at the time.

rather than a strong Htr saying FBI had to look into discrepancy -

A.S.
High degree of scrutiny here. Statg the obvious of his comment re being deposed.

KW ^{said} - ~~has~~ ^{has} a conversation that couldn't be disclosed. So not troubled by HS comment.

H.S. said I am not going to comment on ^{get} ~~it~~ ^{interested in his views} in the letter. That was okay. ~~But~~ ⁱⁿ the context of ready ~~where~~ ^{the} Htr.

Info in the Htr ^{re} ~~was~~ conviction of agent for fals info come from published sources.

Any discussions w/ DOJ re Htr?

Don't recall. Looky for validation of tone of the Htr. Didn't want to send "poke in the eye."

We wanted to respectfully suggest that looky into discrepancy was important. Wanted AS to confirm the tone of the Htr.

Was it appropriate to call H.S.?

~~It was~~ An appropriate & innocuous call. Answer was somewhat obvious that politeness was better than rudeness. But ~~that~~ wanted approach validated

Sandy J. Dietz

K. Wallmann to Judith Wish

December 11, 1996

Telephone Conversation

K Wallman May have said that no conversation w/ H.S.
after conv. re insert. Couldn't be right. Spoke
to him re July 25 ltr. when JQ & KW called him. No one
else present.

Jwish Wondering about that. Any other later contacts.

KW Spoke when she delivered report - whenever that was. When was it?
JW - June 14. KW - When that was before. Think July 25 was last conv.

JW One more question. Did Kathi Whelan review book?

KW Don't remember. Don't think she was a reviewer.



OPR Interview re Howard Shapiro

Judith Wish

December 12, 1996

Thomas Kettle

Jack Quinn

George Ellard

2:25 p.m.

We're here in response to Cong. Livingston's ltr
5 areas of interest

Intro -

Applied Nov. 1, 1995. Will leave roughly mid February
Never been interviewed/deposed by Comm.

I Aldrich Book

learned in phone call from H.S. Remembers HS
calling in advance, asking if JQ were going to be
around, wanted to bring something by. May have
said about manu. - don't remember, not clear.
Not a lot of time between call & visit. W/in 24
hrs. Coming over for some other purpose. JQ
doesn't know what.

Mtg was brief. Didn't sit down. KW may have
been here - she often is.

H.S. had JQ an envelope a thick manuscript.

Clear recollection of H.S. saying that FBI regards
this office - like other agencies - as a client.

As a client we would be interested in publishing by

agent of confidential materials. AS talked about W.H. may
feeling that publication compromised integrity of
b i process.

Implicit or maybe explicit was the expectation that
W.H. would read & react. Interested in portions W.H.
was concerned about. Clear recollection, upon reading
H.S. thought W.H. might believe that book might ~~un~~complicate
integrity of process.

Got back to him promptly. Asked several others to help
him read it. Got back to him the next day or, if
on a Friday - then Monday.

When divided it up asked others to read w/ view
toward determining whether there was confidential
material or whether pub. in general would be
troubled by process.

Didn't know if FBI Director approved at that time.
Subsequently, in brief encounter w/ Dir. in Roosevelt
rm., remembers Dir. alluding to the issue & saying
something about the agency still working on the project.

At mtg w/ A.S. was told of procedure for clearance - back & forth between FBI & author. In ~~an~~ encounter w/ Dir. [15 sec encounter] - Dir. said something like we are still working on matter Howard talked to you about. And this was ^{only} the matter Howard & WH were talking about then.

Don't remember 1st time he met or talked to H.S.
Did not have routine course of dealing. This was first or among the first mtgs.

Doesn't know what Deputy AG knew at the time. May have mentioned this to Dep. Doesn't recall.

Did AS say that Aldrich might ^{possibly} publish upstart clearance?
Remembers discussion that ^{possibly} enforcing contractual agreements was limited

Ad in Esquire said Aldrich had a published - know about this?

Don't know even today if this is the case.

Say anything about security issues such as phones?
Yes. JA recalls some discussion of phone system but doesn't know when it came up

Disc review by Sec. Serv. ?

Don't remember any discussion. H.S. may have raised

Over-Arching concern was integrity of the process - then and now. The idea that an agent might pub. bi. info was frightening & offensive. This was H.S.'s concern as well as JQ's.

After review, thought about situation, taking account of scurrilous nature of charges, concluding FBI should handle in the ordinary course.

No concern about appropriateness of reviewing the book. Didn't find anything that H.S. wouldn't find. Thought publication was damaging, but thought FBI could & should do what it could to minimize the damage.

Didn't want this office to be appearing to attack the book. Wanted FBI to deal with it appropriately.

Was it an offer to see book ?

He didn't say do you want to see ? Impression - thought JQ should see.

II. Sculumbrius Interview - Insert

Learned about it from KW. JQ at the beach.
Learned that there was a note in file saying JN
said link between HRC & hiring of CL. Also learned
that WH got info because Clinger Comm was coming
down to Bureau to review. Thought Clinger was
already aware - but maybe not. ^{Clinger} About to be
_{Comm} given copy.

No memory of any conv. about the use of this
information or limitations on use.

JQ

~~He~~ thought HS told Jame. Jame told KW -
KW told JQ. Jame then told whomever.

Didn't think about Ind. Counsel. But never occurred
to him to communicate the info outside the office.

Did not know what Jame would do w/ information.

JQ understood if info given to Chmn. Clinger it would
shortly be in the press.

Did you know of Jame's communications w/ Tom Kelly?

Don't remember - but may have been told this.

JQ did not communicate w/ FBI or Deputy about this.

A.S. sent ltr to Chungin re contact w/ WH.

JQ does not recall seeing ltr or discussing w/ FBI. Hard rationale for contact - informing affected agency.

III July 25th ltr

JQ given a draft ltr. It was an angry letter w/ a tone that JQ thought would put Dir. on the defensive. Some in W.H. supported a strong ltr. So, JQ said we may have to testify about this conv - but I want your view of this draft ltr - would it provoke bad response. So JQ read or sent it to H.S. H.S. was a little uncomfortable w/ conv.

JQ wanted ~~his~~ H.S. opinion so he could advise others in group: George S; Harold; Jane S

Did not believe this conv would compromise the FBI's independence. JQ was looking for support for the proposition that ltr should be toned down.