

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Date

12-10-45

Mr. Carter:

Mr. _____

Department _____

Here is another angle on that script----

Under this set up I have had to write you and Ruth entirely out.

Make any changes on this you think of--return to me and I will have a couple of boys over at the station put it on records--and you wont have to bother any more with it.

HVE

ANNOUNCER: Ladies and gentlemen.....we are about to let you in on a
 "Behind the Desk Scene" between two telegraph news editors.
 A story has just come over the wire.....here it is.....

1st COPY READER: Hey...Mutl....Listen to this story which has just come in over
 the Chicago Tribune leased wire. Looks to me like we ought to
 make space for it. I'll read it to you...and maybe you might
 have an idea for a proper head. Listen - - - - -

(READING)

"By Walter Trohan.....Washington.....November 9th....
 The late President Roosevelt's 1937 fishing trip off
 the coast of Texas was followed by the disposition
 of certain "hot oil" cases involving a company owned
 by the President's fishing hosts, and the launching
 of a Texas Radio Chain by his second son, Elliott,
 with the help of the oil men he met on the trip,
 Government and newspaper records have disclosed.
 Evidence that Mr. Roosevelt combined business with
 pleasure on his search for Gulf of Mexico tarpon in
 May, 1937, is contained in Federal Court records,
 files of Texas newspapers, and the 800 pages of
 testimony taken by the Internal Revenue Bureau on
 Elliott Roosevelt's financial operations."

"The investigation into Elliott's finances dealt
 principally with a \$200,000 loan made by John A.
 Hartford, President of the Great Atlantic & Pacific
 Tea Company, which was settled for \$4,000 at the
 President's request by former Commerce Secretary
 Jones. Hartford testified the President encouraged
 him to make the loan - - - and he finally did so
 because he was afraid to "incur the enmity" of
 Mr. Roosevelt" - - - - -

2nd COPY READER: I've got an idea about that Hartford loan - - - - - I think the
 old boy merely wanted a little social recognition. Maybe he

(CONTINUES)

2nd COPY READER: wanted a couple of hundred thousand dollars worth of White House dinner invitations.

1st COPY READER: Could be.....He would have gotten more for his money - - - - but don't interrupt - - - - - be thinking about a head. I've got to reach a deadline...and I've got to wade through this thing in a hurry - - - - -

(CONTINUES READING)

"The new evidence on Elliott's financial operations shows that he secured loans and substantial investments in his radio venture after he presented Texas Oil men to his Father during the fishing trip on which he was a member of the Presidential Party."

"Subsequently, Elliott secured White House invitations for the Texas oil men----Sid W. Richardson and Charles F. Roeser-----who invested and lent almost \$250,000 to help Elliott in Texas. At the White House, the oil men advised the President on oil policy."

"Other new evidence discloses that three days after Mr. Roosevelt was the guest of Clint W. Murchison and Dudley S. Golding, other oil men, at their lodge on an island off Port Aransas, Texas, his hosts changed their plea of "Not Guilty" to one of "Nolo Contendere" (No Contest) in a "hot oil case involving interstate transport of fuel in violation of Federal Law."

"One of their oil companies was fined \$17,500, which oil men described as nominal. Federal Court records contain the history of the case. Mr. Roosevelt left Washington April 27, 1937. Two days later he stopped in New Orleans, where he rode between Richard Leche--- then Governor of Louisiana---and Robert Maestri---then and now Mayor---to the tune of "Happy Days are Here Again".

"The visit became known as the "Second Louisiana Purchase", because Mr. Roosevelt secured the support

(Continues reading)

1st COPY READER:

of the Louisiana Delegation, which had been hostile toward a third term because of the late Huey Long. Governor Leche later was jailed for malfeasance in office."

"At New Orleans, Mr. Roosevelt boarded the Presidential Yacht Potomac, which was accompanied by three Destroyers---The Moffet, Decatur and Schenk. It was estimated that the fishing jaunt cost the American taxpayers \$200,000 through the operation of the Naval craft and other expenses."

"On May 1, 1937, Elliott---who accompanied the President---went ashore at Port Aransas, where he met Richardson and J. C. Nelson, a friend of Richardson, according to the Corpus Christi Caller-Times. Elliott left Aransas with Richardson for an island named Matagorda, owned by Golding and Murchison, in the "Saltaire", an area off the Texas Coast 50 to 75 miles northeast of Corpus Christi."

"On May 7th, President Roosevelt left the Potomac to lunch with his son, the latter's wife at that time....now Mrs. Ruth G. Eidson....and their friends on Matagorda, at the clubhouse of the American Oil Company, which was owned by Golding and Murchison."

"The Corpus Christi Caller-Times reported on May 9th: "Relating for the first time that he had landed on a nearby island yesterday for lunch with friends of Elliott and the latter's wife, the President said he had seen many shore birds that he had never laid eyes on before".

2nd COPY READER: What's a shore bird?

1st COPY READER: That's a bird who is shore he can get into the inner circle if he makes the right sort of loan.

(CONTINUES READING)

"On May 11, 1937, the Corpus Christi paper reported

(Continues reading)

1st COPY READER:

that the Channel Transportation and Marketing Company of Houston paid a \$17,500 fine on a charge of transporting petroleum products in Interstate Commerce in violation of Federal Law. The National Petroleum News on May 19, 1937, headlined the fine as "Roosevelt's Hosts" company in Texas fined for "hot" oil law violations." "Shortly after the fishing trip, according to Richardson's testimony in the Internal Revenue investigation of Elliott's operations, Richardson lent Elliott \$20,000. This sum went toward the purchase of Elliott's first radio station KFJZ at Fort Worth September 7, 1937, for \$57,500. Subsequently, Richardson lent another \$15,000 to Elliott for Radio operations and \$5,000 for personal expenses."

"Richardson received stock in Elliott's chain in settlement in 1944 for these "poor boy" loans, as he designated them to Federal Investigators. This stock was valued below the amount of the loans. Richardson also purchased \$25,000 of stock in the radio chain on two occasions."

"Roeser purchased \$125,000 of the stock in 1938 and \$25,000 in 1939. The stock now is earning money and is valued above the purchase price."

2nd COPY READER: (INTERRUPTING)

Oh yes.....I heard that Mr. Roeser and Mr. Richardson would soon have the biggest radio station in Texas.

1st COPY READER: Oh---is that so? They haven't got anything but a permit and a pardon.

2nd COPY READER: What do you mean, permit?

1st COPY READER: Well, somebody gave them a permit that Lyndon Johnson didn't want, to build a big station in San Antonio.

2nd COPY READER: Well.....they say it has already been built.

1st COPY READER: It couldn't be built.....all materials are frozen.

2nd COPY READER: Well, I don't care.....they say it has been built.

1st COPY READER: Oh yes-----I remember now. Richardson bought a transmitting machine from his old friend...Doc Brinkley...the goat gland broadcaster down in Mexico.

2nd COPY READER: That wasn't the way I heard it. He got the apparatus from a Dr. Baker....a cancer man down in Mexico.

1st COPY READER: That's right.....that's right.....old Doc Baker---the corn Doctor. I remember now-----Sid got the machine-----Baker got a pardon-----And don't forget...O'Daniel got a station too. That ought to make a pretty good quartet. Lee can bring a Hillbilly band, and Johnson, Richardson and Roeser can all sing, with O'Daniel leading..."YES SIR, THAT'S MY BABY"

(CONTINUES READING)

"At Fort Worth last September 12, Richardson told Internal Revenue Investigators how White House invitations followed his financial contacts with Elliott. Roeser told a similar story to Investigators September 5th. "The first time I was invited to the WhiteHouse was some months after I made Elliott the loan to buy the Radio Station with", Richardson said under oath."

"He explained that he opposed a certain phase of the President's Oil Policy....and Elliott "asked me if I didn't think it was a good idea for me to go up there and discuss it with his Father."

"My answer was that I might try to help him (Elliott) on the radio business if he got into trouble, but I damn sure was not going up there to tell the President how to run the United States. Then, he asked me would I go if his Father sent for me.....and my answer to this was that any time the President of the United

(Continues reading)

1st COPY READER:

States sent for me, I would be glad to go."

"About two weeks after this conversation, I was in New York, as well as I remember....and Mr. Elliott Roosevelt called me from Washington and said his Father wanted to talk to me and would I be good enough to come to Washington and have lunch with him and his Mother on a given date and have a visit and discuss this oil business with his Father, which I did."

"Later on I was invited to the White House several times when I was in Washington but always the invitation came through Elliott, except for the last visit that I had with the President, and that was on the Sunday after Pearl Harbor. Mr. Roosevelt had asked Roeser and myself some months before Pearl Harbor to make a survey of the oil business and have Thanksgiving Dinner with him at Warm Springs and give him our views and what we thought about the future of the oil business."

"Roeser and Richardson did not have Thanksgiving Dinner with the President because he cut short his stay at Warm Springs as war neared with Japan. According to the Richardson statement, Elliott advised them his Father would see them later, which he did on the Sunday after Pearl Harbor. At that time, the oil men were operating the radio chain for Elliott, who was in the Army.

"We did have lunch with him, the statement said, adding that most of the conversations was about the oil business and its relation to the war."

1st COPY READER:

Well....what kind of a head shall we put on it-----two columns----
one column----or a streamer?

2nd COPY READER:

Brother, don't talk foolish.....I've just got a flash that the
ad guys have sold another ad.....no more news tonight. Throw

(Continue)

2nd COPY READER: the thing in the waste basket! I don't think much of it anyway.
I wouldn't have listened in the first place, except your reading
of it run me into the over-time bracket. Good bye....

FINIS