

TUESDAY - JUNE #), 1964

This is the day of President and Mrs. Orlich's visit. He is the first Latin American Chief of State to make an official visit to Washington in our administration. We met them on the South Lawn at eleven o'clock, hot sun, flags barely moving in the still air, 21 gun salute. It was good to see our old friend Raymond Telles, now Ambassador to Costa Rica but formerly Mayor of El Paso during the campaign of 1960 when ~~xxxx~~ I was there with the Kennedy girls, and when Mrs. Raymond Telles assisted in an all out bang-up tea party for us.

Thomas Mann had President and Mrs. Orlich in tow.

After the welcoming ceremonies ~~xxxx~~ were over I went in the house to make plans for my house guests. It was sort of like a reunion. Mary Rather is up on the third floor and the Donald Thomases, with Jane arriving from Europe just in time for the dinner, and the Frank E. wins coming in to spend the night, and Mr. Kellam, the most important house guest I ever have. It means ^{he} something special to me to have him here, though ~~he~~ is hardly the State Dinner type.

In the afternoon I had a good visit with Don on my Daddy's estate which seems to be in the process of being eaten up and eroded ~~during Ruth's lifetime. It is a sad story. Something Tennessee Williams and William Faulkner might have collaborated on. I wonder what will happen to the Brick House.~~

held until 1984 for 20 years?

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I worked on the mail and studied the guest list and the after dinner dancing list, put on my yellow chiffon sheath that really bells out with enough fullness for dancing, and then at 8 o'clock we met the Orliches and took them upstairs, along with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Mrs. Oduber, the Ambassador and Mrs. Facio, the Raymond Telles, and Angier and Robin ~~du~~ Duke. I do believe Mr. Facio was one of those who had been to the ranch when a group from the United Nations came down.

Lynda came in, anxious to demonstrate the gifts, particularly the rocking horse that neighs ^{which} we were sending to their 5 year old son, and Smokey the Bear ~~for~~ the small baby brother. For the President we had an elaborately tooled Western saddle made in San Marcos, and for Senora Orlich a silver necklace in a squash ~~(2)~~ blossom motif by a New Mexico Vele (?) Indian.

My gift from them was an antique necklace, and ~~Lyndon's~~ Lyndon's an artifact tha I simply love. I will have to set up a museum to hold them all! It was a vessel -0- a sort of a jug far, far older than pre-Columbian vintage with a sort of stylized animal like a ^{jaguar} ~~jaguar~~ depicted on it.

It was a big dinner -- about 180 guests -- as some columnist put it, ^{"including"} ~~including~~ a former Vice President of the United States Henry Wallace and Mrs. Wallace, and two who might be Vice Presidents, Senator and Mrs. Hubert Humphrey, Congressman and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr. //

Besides those Congressmen who had to do with Latin American Affairs, we had also invited those of Latin American heritage, such as the Montoyas from New Mexico, the Henry Gonzaleses from San Antonio, and the Ed Roybals from California, and Delegate Stanos (?) Escern(?) from Puerto, and I was particularly glad to have the Governor of Puerto Rico and Mrs. ^{Munoz - Murine} ~~Munoz (?) Murine (?)~~. She was at my table and livened things up.

On the literati side there was John dos Passos whose trilogy on USA caused the perfectly good University of Texas President to lose his job. I mean the fact that President Homer Rainey had it on a reading list for students, and on a much lighter side two ~~xxxxx~~ comedians of different eras - old timer and favorite Jimmy Durante who took the microphone and did some singing in the middle of the evening - and young Woody Allen who had entertained in the Salute to the President.

Also from show business composer Richard Rodgers and Mrs. Rodgers was at our table. Handsome, ~~lean (?)~~ David Rockefeller who is Chairman of the business group for Latin America, and whom I remember from our trip to the Modern Museum of Art, was there without Mrs. Rockefeller who was off on a summer vacation. Evangalist Billy Graham and Mrs. Graham made a very fine looking couple, and I am sure came as a surprise to some of our guests such as perhaps Princess Alice Longworth who was once the belle of any

White House Party, and was still out-stepping anybody in wit.

According to one of the columnists, ^{Jackie} She suggested a ticket of Johnson and ~~Jockey~~ ^(?).

Well, there was a heavy contingent of Texans there because while I am here I want to take care of some good friends who have done so much through the years -- the Roland Boyds, the Cecil Burneys, the Albert Jacksons, the John Runyans, the Claude Wild Sr., and the Sam Winters, besides of course my house guests the Donald Thomases, Jesse, Mary Rather, and the Frank Erwins. I have always called the Milo Perkins my own State Department for South America so of course they were there, and Scott Kirkpatrick who always gets me tickets that can't be got at the National, and my own secretary Ashton Gonella and her new husband John, and friends of ours who have been especially nice to Luci the Harry Byrds of Winchester, Virginia, and the Robert ^{Meyner} ~~Misors~~ who wanted to be her hosts when she came to Princeton, and old friends like Tony and Ann Buford, besides those who had to do with Latin American affairs either through the Ford Foundation or banana companies or Universities.

Music carried us through the evening, beginning with the Marine Band in the hall when everybody first arrived, and the Air Force Strolling Strings who came in with the desert ^S and stayed through the coffee, ^{Lanner} and the transition back to the East Room, and then Lester ~~Lanner~~ ^(?) with his most complete orchestra took over.

A large group of additional guests arrived with accent on about 25 of Lynda and Luci's special young friends -- the gayest fo whom was Stafford Hutchinson and including a lot of young people who were up here working for the summer -- sons or daughters of good friends. Charlotte Ford, one of the loveliest, daughter of Henry Ford.

The Orliches met the new guests, danced a few dances and left a little past eleven. And it was only then that I began to explore. It was really the most delightful facet of the evening, the dancing al fresco, on the roof top over the motion picture theatre! Bess had opened up the double doors from the East Room out on top of the theatre. She borrowed a trick from the Elms where we really operated on a small budget, and had put down some sheets of linoleum which make a perfectly good dance floor, scattered small round tables around the edges, put up clusters of softly lit white Japanese lanterns that swayed at the end of slender bamboo poles, and borrowed greens from the National Park Service, which were both a decoration and a screen from the sightseers along Pennsylvania Avenue.

It was an enchanting setting! An inspiration for a hot summer evening with the view southward to the monuments, past the lighted fountain, Lester Lannen's ^{Lavin} (musicxx music was great,

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and although I read with some annoyance later on that one columnist
had gotten out of the whole evening the headline White House Star
is/Quite ^{n't} ~~Up~~ to Par. ["] It was true Lyndon did have a cold, said so,
didn't dance many dances -- the courtesy ones with the guests of
honor, family and a few others, I couldn't get ~~x~~ enough dancing,
and we both stayed until nearly one o'clock. I think it must have
been two before the last guest disappeared.

Upstairs we had a night cap with the Erwins, Jesse,
the Thomases, Mary had already gone to bed, Dorothy and Sam
Winters, and the Claude Wilds, and then to bed.

It was with the satisfied feeling of a hostess who knows
she has had a good party and a unique party, ~~albeit~~ albeit it was
not thanks to my inventiveness but Bess'.

Days to use if not in Book
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