

United States Senate

MEMORANDUM

Juanita --

The Mr. X is Tony Buford. Senator asked me to type it this way so he could show it to people and not reveal his source.

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X Election
Pres. 1960

Resume of Telephone Conversation Between Senator Johnson and
February 18, 1960

Mr. X started off by saying what a hard time they were having selling tickets to the dinner for Senator Symington. "The Dinner out here for Stu had 130 people . . . and these boys are going day and night. Finally up to 600 today. Not going over at all. Labor has to take 25 tables. So far they have five tables. They are fussing about that. So much for that.

"Jim Blair went off this morning. Got an excuse got to go to the Governors' thing in Las Vegas. Took off and won't be here. Truman is not going to be here. McKinney -- used to be Chairman -- he was bragging around that Truman was going to announce for Symington here at this dinner. It developed -- this is all pretty close information -- it developed that Truman heard about it and called him. He better not, he wasn't going to do it. So Symington heard about it. When he was out at the Jackson Day Dinner the other night they wanted somebody to go see Truman. Symington went up on the 31st. I don't know what transpired. Later on Symington sent _____ and Clark Clifford and the old man got pretty mad. Of course, this all can't be proved. The old man is on his way to Florida.

Senator Johnson said, "I thought I might go spend a day with him in Florida. He is speaking there on the 25th."

Mr. X replied, "You are not supposed to know anything about this. The minute you do they will, they are going to accuse -- they are suspicious of me anyway."

Senator Johnson said, "They will never know it."

Mr. X said, "If they keep on pressuring this old man knows more about politics in a second."

Senator Johnson said, "What amazed me is that book."

Mr. X said, "They put it out that book cost \$30,000. Stu okayed every word of it. That information ought to be got to the old man." Mr. X said that last night's Post Dispatch reviewed the book and that he would try to find a copy of the review to send to Senator Johnson. Senator Johnson said, "I wish you would."

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Mr. X said, "What you ought to do you take this advice not know anything about it. Now be a good time for Mr. Sam or somebody to further their connections with him. If you happen to be down there and be in Miami, run down there to see him. You know where Stu is going to fall. He won't do anything for anybody except when it is for him. I would rather lose with a good guy than win with a bad one. I am giving you my arm. Between us he is a little peeved. The old man is a little peeved right now. He is not going to be here. They haven't announced it because they think it will ruin their ticket sale. I don't know why Jim Blair left. I can't tell you. Only about three or four Congressmen coming. Nobody is mad at him but not taking the trouble to go out for him. "

Senator Johnson said, "You are wonderful. I will take due notice and keep my mouth shut. "

Mr. X said, "The other thing -- my friend wants to come up and see you. "

Senator Johnson said, "Tell him to hurry. "