

**The original documents are located in Box 42, folder “Personnel - White House Stiles, Jack (2)” of the Philip Buchen Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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Wednesday 9/11/74

*Stiles Jack*

9:00 After you had gone last night, Marba Perrott called (616) 363-1904 to say Jack Stiles would like very much to talk with you ---- is quite concerned about the situation and needs to discuss it with you.

*Talked to him  
9/12*



October 4, 1974

Stiles /  
Jack

Dear Mr. Mayer:

Thank you so very much for your kind letter of September 30th discussing President Ford's response to the questions at his press conference on the subject of Chile.

Your thoughts as expressed in the attached collegary are indeed interesting and I was pleased to read them. It was very kind of you to take time to write and forward this material.

With appreciation,

Philip W. Buchan  
Counsel to the President

Mr. Robert E. Mayer  
Vice President  
States Steamship Company  
320 California Street  
San Francisco, California



# The University Club

1155 16th Street, N.W.

Washington, D. C. 20036

September 30, 1974

Mr. Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Buchen:

Re: Chile and the C.I.A.

Last night I visited with the President and Jack Stiles. As a 20-year supporter of the President I know I am biased. However, I agree wholeheartedly with his response concerning Chile.

So disturbed did I become about the press continuing to harp on this that I wrote out the attached supposititious colloquy, which is no doubt a presumption on my part. I was going to throw it away until I read Laurence 'Stern's article in Sunday's Washington Post. After finishing the start on page one, I was totally astounded to see the space they gave him on the inside -- a total page!

In our conversation last night, I suggested to the President that the press is simply demanding too much and this is the idea I try to put forward in the final answer in the attached colloquy.

I am sure that you and other advisers of our good President are way ahead of these poor thoughts but my desire for the success of this Administration is such that I resolve the doubt in favor of passing this along.

Continued. . . . .

The University Club

1135 16th Street, N.W.

Washington, D. C. 20036

Mr. P. W. Buchen

- 2 -

September 30, 1974

Please do not take time to acknowledge but know that if there is ever anything I may do for your office in San Francisco or on the Pacific Coast, please let me know.

Mildred Leonard and Nancy Howe have my address.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Mayer

Enclosure

REM/sem



Wednesday 10/30/74

*Stiles Jack*  
Meeting  
10/30/74  
5 p. m.

1:10 Jack Stiles advises that there is an Italian magazine very similar to LOOK -- OGGI -- doing a series of stories. The magazine is very well credited. A reporter and a photographer are here and would like to spend a few minutes talking to you and taking some pictures. Mr. Stiles thought you might be interested because of your travels in Europe.

They will be going to the Press Office; will see Seidman at 4 o'clock.

They are particularly interested in who's doing what -- also very interested in something you're doing -- and in what the President's interest is in international affairs.

Mr. Buchen met with them around 5 o'clock 10/30.

Names: Santi Visalli  
Gino Gullace



Copy 11

EXECUTIVE

PL

November 4, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MR. DONALD RUMSFELD

FROM:

TERRY O'DONNELL

SUBJECT:

Jack Stiles

Jack Stiles called this morning and said it was traditional for him and the President to get together on election eve informally to watch the returns.

Jack asked me to ask the President whether or not he should plan on doing the same tomorrow evening.



*Stiles Jack*

1 NOV 50 11/1/17

12:00 I understand Commander Kerr saw you in the hall;  
have you taken care of the matter concerning  
Jack Stiles?



MEMORANDUM  
OF CALL

TO:

☐ YOU WERE CALLED BY— ☐ YOU WERE VISITED BY—

*Marsh*

OF (Organization)

*Walter Kerr x 6697*

☐ PLEASE CALL —→ PHONE NO.  
CODE/EXT. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ WILL CALL AGAIN ☐ IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

☐ RETURNED YOUR CALL ☐ WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

*Jack Stiles*  
*Consultant*  
*125 + 25 per*  
*diem*  
*+ travel*

RECEIVED BY

DATE

TIME

STANDARD FORM 63  
REVISED AUGUST 1967  
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

GPO : 1969-O48-16-80341-1 332-389

63-108

MEMORANDUM  
OF CALL

TO:

*Eva*

☒ YOU WERE CALLED BY—

☐ YOU WERE VISITED BY—

*Howard Kern*

OF (Organization)

☒ PLEASE CALL —→

PHONE NO.  
CODE/EXT.

*6697*

☐ WILL CALL AGAIN

☐ IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

☐ RETURNED YOUR CALL

☐ WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE



RECEIVED BY

DATE

TIME

*h*

*11/7*

*0845*

STANDARD FORM 63

REVISED AUGUST 1967

GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

GPO : 1969-O-48-16-80341-1 332-889

63-108

November 15, 1974

*Stiles, Jack*

**Dear Beverly:**

**Your memory is keener than mine. I do remember our being in Paris together but not that Van Gogh was our mutual interest.**

**Of course, I have not forgotten the roles which Jack Stiles and I had at your wedding -- as the bride's friends from Paris. I felt some of your guests were intrigued by the possibility from finding us there that you had had a Bohemian past.**

**I had not realized you and Bill have become long-time Virginians, and no doubt you have enjoyed life in Charlottesville. As another Michigander, I can appreciate the relief of being away from northern winters.**

**Very warmest regards to you and Bill.**

**Sincerely yours,**

**Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President**

**Mrs. Williston Lavahe Clever  
Montvue Drive  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22901**



11 Copy  
December 23, 1974

Dear Mr. Sundbeck:

At the request of Mr. Jack Stiles, The President was pleased to autograph the enclosed photograph for you.

President Ford has asked me to forward this picture to you along with his best wishes for a most happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Frank R. Pagnotta

Enclosure

Mr. Ed Sundbeck  
906 South Washington Street  
Apartment 113  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

FRP:CJG  
CF/FPagnotta/JStiles



[Jan. 1975?]

Stiles Jack



Factual --Projects JRS has worked on  
since September.

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2. Preliminary study of Campaign Reform Act --for information only and to alert the Administration of some of the proscriptions of the bill.
3. Assisted in assembling names for candidates for the new Election Committee.
4. Studies on what the housing industry might need to stimulate recovery. Telephone and personal discussions with NAHB and others in the industry who have requested an audience. (discussions with Bill Seidman)
5. Meetings with Jack Marsh re progress and problems of BiCentennial. Also one meeting with Jack Warner.
6. Touching bases with Bill Walker when requested on people known to me on whom he might have wanted a reference.
7. Occasional meetings with the President, sometimes purely social; occasionally in reference to the above topics.

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1. That because I have studied the campaign reform act I have engaged in improper political activities.

I have in no way campaigned or prepared for active campaigning. My studies were for information only, on a subject of vital importance to the proper conduct of myself and others in the White House.

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3. Housing --this is a field of expertise. I have no conflict of interest because I am retired from active business and do not own a single FHA insured mortgage or project. I contemplate none.

To imply I have a possible conflict of interest is to bar anyone with practical experience in housing from giving the Administration input on the subject.

4. Bi Centennial. I can see no problems.



\$300,000 ransom

# Bank exec's wife freed by kidnapers

Special to The Tribune

MISHAWAKA, Ind.—The wife of a Mishawaka bank president, captive for more than 16 hours, was released unharmed by her kidnapers Friday after her husband delivered \$300,000 in ransom, som.

Mary Lou Schwartz, 33, was found in a locked delivery van parked behind a savings and loan association in nearby downtown Elkhart at about 3 a. m. Friday.

A phone call revealing her location came shortly after her husband, Dennis, president of the Valley Bank & Trust Co., tossed a duffel bag with the \$300,000 from an overpass on the Indiana Toll Road about three miles east of the Elkhart toll plaza.

The location is about 15 miles east of Mishawaka.

ACCORDING TO Lt. William Campbell of Elkhart police, Mrs. Schwartz was lured from

her home Thursday at about 11:30 a. m. by two men who posed as United Parcel Service deliverymen. They drove to her home, in a subdivision just north of Mishawaka, in the van which was painted to look like a UPS truck. The van was stolen Jan. 21 from Elkhart, police said.

The kidnapers called Schwartz at his office and told him to collect \$300,000. He received three phone calls at home that evening, according to Mishawaka Chief of Police Jay [Pete] Stebbins. The first told him to go to a telephone booth, where he found a citizens band radio. Attached to the radio were further instructions for him to drive along a route northeast of the city, Stebbins said.

Schwartz notified authorities after he got the first call, but the kidnapers managed to elude them.

WHEN HE returned home,



Mrs. Mary Lou Schwartz

the second call told him to drive the route again. During this trip he unsuccessfully tried to raise the kidnapers on the radio.

Finally, Schwartz got the third call, telling him to get on the Toll Road and drive east. Once on highway, a voice over the citizens band radio told him to stop on a certain overpass and drop the money onto the local road, Stebbins said.

Schwartz later got a call disclosing his wife's location in the van, which had been repainted white.

Police would not divulge the source of Schwartz' \$300,000.

2 die, 25

MARCUS HOOK, PA. [AP] —A tanker unloading 17 million gallons of crude oil at a Delaware River refinery was rammed by a chemical ship Friday, setting off a dozen explosions that killed at least two persons.

At least 35 people, 12 of them fire fighters, were injured, most only slightly. Of the 46 persons believed aboard the burning tanker Corinthos, 25 were missing, including Capt. Gostas Marinos of Athens, Greece, his wife, son and sister.

It was not known whether some of the missing may have been crewmen on shore leave. Two unidentified bodies were found in the area of the dock.

"It was the inside of hell," said policeman George Hansell, among the first at the scene after the 754-foot Corinthos was struck broadside by the Edgar M. Queeny, an American ship apparently attempting to make a steering change near the BP Oil Corp. dock.

"IT FAILED and collided," said Harry Schaefer, general superintendent of BP, a sub-

sidiary of Algea Corinthos.

Flam air, sm covered of a f sands spilled

The with a contain dows a homes

# Ford makes a tough decision, fires friend

By Aldo Beckman

Chicago Tribune Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Ford enjoys a nice guy image, but sometimes his top aides wish he were a little less compassionate.

For instance, two weeks ago

he called Jack Stiles, his longtime friend, into the Oval Office to tell him that he would because his continued presence was an embarrassment. After spending 30 minutes alone with Stiles, Ford sheepishly admitted to top aides

that he did not have enough nerve to deliver the bad news.

BUT WHITE House aides prevailed, and convinced Ford he must dismiss Stiles, after news stories about his fights have to leave the White House with Grand Rapids police, who

were called to Stiles' home twice to settle a domestic quarrel. Administration officials also complained that Stiles, a Grand Rapids builder, had criticized Ford's housing policies. So Ford called Stiles back in earlier this week and told his old friend that he was fired.

chicagoland



init



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION  
GRAND RAPIDS INSURING OFFICE  
2922 FULLER AVENUE, N.E.  
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49505

REGION V  
300 South Wacker Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

January 28, 1975

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
JW:mb

Mr. John R. Stiles  
1180 Knapp, N. E.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505

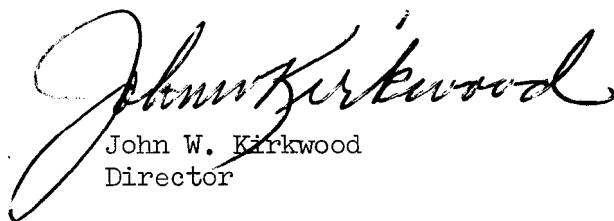
re: 263-067668-235 - Evelyn Thomas      CONSTRUCTION  
1525 Wesley Ave.      COMPLAINTS  
Muskegon, Michigan  
263-069492-235 - Youssef S. Mezher  
2212 Elmer, N. E.  
Grand Rapids, Mich. 49505

Dear Mr. Stiles:

Thank you for your attention to the two cases listed above. It would appear that you have corrected the minor problems involved and I am sure that should any further problems arise, you will cooperate with us in the correction, should there be any.

I appreciate your cooperation and, based upon the complaints being resolved, we are removing you from our Stop Processing List as of this date.

Sincerely,



John W. Kirkwood  
Director

[Jan. 1975?]

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since September.

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[Jan. 1975?]

2

the country's most serious challenge "at any time short of war."

Rockefeller, in his first speech since being confirmed as Vice President, said Ford's plan was "a comprehensive program and a tough but good program."

"Congress has the responsibility to respond positively by adopting the President's program or to come up with a program of its own which recognizes the critical nature of this situation and which is comprehensive and bold enough to deal with the crisis that confronts us," Rockefeller said.

"This society now finds itself more seriously challenged than at any time short of war. In fact, the future of democracy and freedom throughout the world are being challenged."

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#### Stiles Employment Confirmed, Questioned

Washington (AP) -- Ron Nessen confirmed that John Stiles, a long-time political confidante of President Ford, has been on the government payroll as a White House consultant, but denied that Stiles is involved in any presidential campaign work.

He said Stiles has worked as a \$125-a-day consultant to the White House for 57 days since Oct. 1 on a variety of assignments. These included a since shelved project to build a White House swimming pool with public contributions and some Bicentennial Commission projects.

A question was raised by reporters about the propriety of having Stiles on the White House payroll, since he has pleaded guilty to an incident involving hitting a policeman several years ago in his hometown of Grand Rapids, Mich.

Nessen said Stiles had undergone an FBI check and he assumed such an incident would show up there. But, Nessen added, "I think the President is an old friend of Jack Stiles and probably knows his personal background."

Stiles managed all of Ford's previous political campaigns. When asked if he had been chosen to run Ford's Presidential campaign, Nessen said, "No."

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Eca. 1/21/72

By Ray Stephens, Chief of Our Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON—President Gerald R. Ford's oldest political confidant is doing preliminary work on the next presidential campaign despite being on the public payroll as a White House consultant.

The aide is John R. (Jack) Stiles, a 58-year-old Grand Rapids real estate developer who has managed all of Ford's political campaigns, starting with his first in 1948.

Aside from questions of propriety involved in a public official working on campaign politics at taxpayer expense, Stiles' duties — as he outlined them in an interview with Booth Newspapers — could involve a violation of federal law. The U.S. Code (Title 31, Section 628) appears to prohibit any such activity unless expressly authorized and funded by Congress.

The White House was asked twice to elaborate on Stiles' assignment, including its legality, but the questions drew no reply.

Stiles has remained close to Ford over the years despite an arrest record that includes a conviction for assaulting a policeman.

The incident happened in June, 1967, after Stiles' wife, Mary, telephoned police and complained that her husband had been beating her. Two officers answered the call, and Stiles hit one of them, Patrolman Steven Spangenberg, in the face with a glass. After fighting the case in the courts for more than a year, Stiles was sentenced to 10 days in jail and fined \$122 on a plea of guilty to assault and battery.



In 1971, two officers again answered a disturbance call at the Stiles home. When they tried to enter, Stiles slammed the door in their faces, knocking one of them down a short flight of steps. The officer was not injured.

In acquitting Stiles of a charge of obstructing an officer, the judge said he had interfered, but without any criminal intent. Stiles' "poor judgment brought him 12 hours in jail and a public trial, but poor judgment does not rise to the status of a criminal offense," the judge added.

Since quietly joining the White House staff about three months ago, Stiles has been something of a mystery man. A consultant's job pays up to \$150 a day, plus expenses, but it is an innocuous post compared to the positions of prestige occupied by other old friends of Ford from Grand Rapids.

While Special Assistant L. William Seidman and Counsel Philip B. Vuchan are cultivated by politicians and the press, Stiles has enjoyed an anonymity rarely accorded in Washington to any individual who can boast of both personal and professional ties to a president.

Asked during the interview if he had been shunted to the shadows by Ford or high-ranking White House aides lest his police record embarrass the President, Stiles denied it, saying it was his own idea to try to avoid publicity.

"I've elected a low profile position because no matter what the truth or the facts are I recognize that somebody can use this in some way against Ford," he said. "It isn't fair, it isn't the way things should be, but there is a certain recognition on my part. It doesn't relate to his attitude."



The fact that Ford retained Stiles as manager of three congressional campaigns after he was jailed underscores the President's confidence in his old associate. It does not, however, square with Stiles' low rank on the White House staff, or his description of his duties. As Stiles tells it, he just sort of goes his own way, handling essentially trivial matters at the President's request, or on his own volition.

At the same time, he claims easy, direct access to Ford, a privilege that is the Capital's No. 1 symbol of influence, and therefore seldom conferred upon those who serve only as consultants.

"Specifically, I don't have an assignment, which is the best part of it," Stiles said. "I've been working on a lot of those areas that the President might ask me to ~~go~~ Go ahead and see if you can't pick up this ball."

Asked for an example, Stiles mentioned the "Bicentennial Commission, which as you know has had considerable difficulty getting its gears meshed."

"Due to the confusion subsequent to the other administration leaving, that committee has never been - that council or advisory group, I've forgotten the title of it - has never been confirmed," he said. "The names are all in pigeonholes, but it has never been confirmed."

Actually, there is no Bicentennial Commission. Stiles apparently referred to the Bicentennial Advisory Council, although members of this group - the appointments were announced Monday - are not subject to Senate confirmation.



The subject of politics arose when Stiles was asked if he had done any political work since joining Ford's staff.

"Well, one thing that I have done is - you know, one of these miscellaneous assignments - is that I have been giving a lot of study to the campaign reform act which, you know, revolutionizes presidential elections."

After first calling the study an assignment, Stiles later referred to it as a "hobby" and still later, in a discussion of the White House political chain of command, he said he "just hangs loose," adding:

"My interest is like I said about these other things where it came to my attention what a radical change there was in the campaign act, and I said, 'Well, in case I'm involved, I better get myself informed.'"

Stiles agrees with such political authorities as former Sen. Eugene McCarthy, D-Minn., that a thorough study of the new law is necessary now, long before the next race gets under way.

"If we wanted to foresee at this moment how to structure a campaign - which we're not looking at, but if we did - you couldn't structure it until some of these matters in the reform bill have been straightened out," he said.

For the first time, Stiles noted, there will be a legal ceiling on campaign spending "and you can't go barreling into some campaign with the assumption that, well, if you need some extra dough that you're going to raise it, because there's no way you can raise it and spend it legally."



“So, it's got to be a long, thought-out allocation of resources,” Stiles said, “and at the moment the law is full of question marks ....”

Stiles twice evaded a reply when asked if he would manage Ford's 1976 campaign, but he emphasized that he wants no other government job than the one he has.

Asked if he might be in line to be secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Stiles replied, “I wouldn't want to be, under any circumstances.” He said he wanted neither the administrative burdens nor the pressures of a Cabinet post.

Told that the federal Bureau of Investigation had been checking into his background, Stiles suggested that perhaps nothing more than routine national security clearance was involved.

As for the next Ford political campaign, his old manager said “all I have done is to say that it's a new ballgame and I'm trying to make myself as expert on it as possible. When those decisions come along, I hope I know the answers.”

end story



06  
1/21/75

SUB

~~WASHINGTON--To update, sub for fourth graf begi~~

(WASHINGTON--To update Stiles-Ford (21Bw102), sub for fourth graf

beginning "The White House"... no reply."

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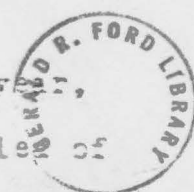
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"So, it's got to be a long, thought-out allocation of resources," Stiles said, "and at the moment the law is full of question marks ...."

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Asked if he might be in line to be secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Stiles replied, "I wouldn't want to be, under any circumstances." He said he wanted neither the administrative burdens nor the pressures of a Cabinet post.

Told that the federal Bureau of Investigation had been checking into his background, Stiles suggested that perhaps nothing more than routine national security clearance was involved.

As for the next Ford political campaign, his old manager said "all I have done is to say that it's a new ballgame and I'm trying to make myself as expert on it as possible. When those decisions come along, I hope I know the answers."

end story



06  
1/21/75

SUB

~~WASHINGTON--To update, sub for fourth graf begi~~

WASHINGTON--To update Stiles-Ford (21BWC2), sub for fourth graf

~~beginning~~ "The White House"... no reply."

Asked to elaborate on Stiles' assignment, including its legality, the White House took five days to respond that it would have no comment, other than to point out that Stiles, as a ~~some~~ consultant, <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ not technically a member of the President's staff.

Be that as it may, Stiles ~~has been~~ works out of a two-room suite on the first floor of the Executive Office Building, <sup>OFFICIAL</sup> quarters for White House staff people.

Stiles has remained, etc., 5th graf as before.



66  
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(FORD CAMPAIGN)

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THE MAN WHO MANAGED ALL OF GERALD R. FORD'S POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS IS DOING PRELIMINARY WORK FOR THE PRESIDENT'S 1976 RACE ALTHOUGH HE IS ON THE PUBLIC PAYROLL AS A WHITE HOUSE CONSULTANT, BOOTH NEWSPAPERS REPORTED WEDNESDAY.

RAY STEPHENS, CHIEF OF BOOTH'S WASHINGTON BUREAU, WROTE THAT JOHN R. "JACK" STILES JOINED THE WHITE HOUSE STAFF ABOUT THREE MONTHS AGO AND HAS BEEN STUDYING THE CAMPAIGN REFORM LAW THAT WILL GOVERN FINANCING OF THE NEXT PRESIDENTIAL RACE.

STEPHENS SAID THAT STILES' DUTIES, AS HE OUTLINED THEM IN AN INTERVIEW, "ASIDE FROM QUESTIONS OF PROPRIETY INVOLVED IN A PUBLIC OFFICIAL WORKING ON CAMPAIGN POLITICS AT TAXPAYER EXPENSE ... COULD INVOLVE A VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW."

"THE WHITE HOUSE WAS ASKED TWICE TO ELABORATE ON STILES' ASSIGNMENT, INCLUDING ITS LEGALITY," STEPHENS WROTE, "BUT DECLINED TO COMMENT, EXCEPT TO SAY THAT AS A CONSULTANT STILES IS TECHNICALLY NOT A MEMBER OF THE WHITE HOUSE STAFF."

STEPHENS SAID STILES, 58, A GRAND RAPIDS REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER, "HAS MANAGED ALL OF FORD'S POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS, STARTING WITH HIS FIRST IN 1948."

HE SAID STILES, WHEN ASKED IF HE HAD DONE ANY POLITICAL WORK SINCE JOINING FORD'S STAFF, REPLIED:

"WELL, ONE THING THAT I HAVE DONE IS -- YOU KNOW, ONE OF THESE MISCELLANEOUS ASSIGNMENTS -- IS THAT I HAVE BEEN GIVING A LOT OF STUDY TO THE CAMPAIGN REFORM ACT WHICH, YOU KNOW, REVOLUTIONIZES PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS."

STEPHENS ALSO REPORTED THAT STILES RECEIVED 10 DAYS IN JAIL AND A \$100 FINE AFTER PLEADING GUILTY TO ASSAULT ON A POLICEMAN IN CONNECTION WITH AN INCIDENT IN 1967.

ASKED IF HE HAD BEEN KEPT IN THE BACKGROUND AT THE WHITE HOUSE LEST THE ARREST RECORD EMBARRASS THE PRESIDENT, STEPHENS SAID, STILES REPLIED: "I'VE ELECTED A LOW PROFILE POSITION BECAUSE NO MATTER WHAT THE TRUTH OR THE FACTS ARE I RECOGNIZE THAT SOMEBODY CAN USE THIS IN SOME WAY AGAINST FORD."

UPI 01-22 03:45 PES



(FORD CAMPAIGN)

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UPI 01-22 03:45 PES



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 22, 1975

*Stiles, Jack*  
*(see*  
*Policy: Book—*  
*"Portrait of*  
*an Assassin")*

Dear Mr. Davis:

The President has asked me to reply to your letter of December 6, 1974, requesting his permission to prepare a television script based on the material contained in Portrait of an Assassin, a book which he co-authored in 1964 with Mr. John R. Stiles.

While the President appreciates your interest in the historic and dramatic significance of the events portrayed in this work, it is nevertheless the opinion of this office that the preparation of a script or other reuse of this material would be inappropriate during the President's term of office. Simon & Shuster, Inc., holders of the publication rights were recently advised to the same effect with respect to any reprinting of Portrait of an Assassin.

Mr. William E. Casselman II of this office has taken the liberty of informing your attorneys, Wyman, Bautzer, Rothman & Kuchel, of our determination in this matter.

Sincerely,

*Philip W. Buchen*

Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Mr. Sheldon Davis  
Executive Producer  
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Inc.  
10202 West Washington Blvd.  
Culver City, California 90230

cc: Thomas Kuchel



Thursday 1/23/75

Stiles  
Jack

3:20 Brenda called. Said Mr. Rumsfeld wants the notebooks  
prepared by Jack Stiles.

6797



## MILANOWSKI &amp; MILANOWSKI

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Suite 601 Peoples Building  
60-66 Monroe Avenue, N.W.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502

*Stiles  
Jack*

John P. Milanowski  
Thomas A. Milanowski

Wencel A. Milanowski  
of Counsel

January 23, 1975

Mr. Gerald R. Ford, Jr.  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jerry:

I am appalled at the story and therefore the injustice done to our mutual friend, Jack Stiles. Without going into any details I urge you to keep him on, providing it can be done within the framework of the law. I think you need him. I think he is a man who has the best political acumen of any person I have ever known. Needless to say, I would not write this letter unless I thought your support is needed on his behalf. Incidentally, I am sure he would be willing to work without pay.

Sincerely,

JPM:mm

*John*  
John P. Milanowski

Q Ron, while we are on the subject, may I ask what in a way may be a related question -- the question of Mr. Stiles' status on the White House staff. As I understand it, you are saying that he is not technically a member of the White House staff, and I am sure you are familiar with Booth Newspaper stories that say he pleaded guilty to a crime.

First of all, is it correct that it is your position that he is not legally a member of the White House staff and, secondly, what is your view or the President's view on Mr. Stiles serving as a consultant to the President when he pleaded guilty to apparently a charge of assault and battery in 1969?

MR. NESSEN: And what is the question?

Q What is your attitude toward having as a consultant to the President a man who pleaded just a few years ago to a crime?

MR. NESSEN: Jack Stiles, as I understand it, does work here from time to time as a consultant. He is not on the payroll.

Q Does he get paid?

MR. NESSEN: He gets paid for whatever days he works as a consultant.

Q How many days did he work and what kind of consultant work is he doing?

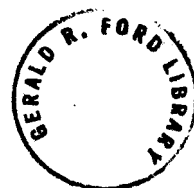
MR. NESSEN: He worked 57 days since October 1.

Q Is he setting up the President's Presidential campaign or is he involved in politics in any way?

MR. NESSEN: Oh, no.

Q What is he doing?

MR. NESSEN: What he has done from time to time is, among other things, the first thing he did around here was, at the time when some people were writing in and saying they wanted to contribute to a White House swimming pool -- I understand that at one point there were 250 letters piled up, some of them containing contributions, and nobody had bothered to acknowledge them or do anything with the contributions, so that was his first assignment as a consultant -- to answer those letters and look into the possibility of building a swimming pool from public contributions. That project has been put on the shelf, so he is not involved in that.



Q Why is it necessary to have a consultant do that work?

MR. NESSEN: It was just felt it was better than taking a White House staff member to deal with something like that.

Q What is the rate? What do you get for that kind of work?

MR. NESSEN: Oh, whatever days you work, the maximum allowed is \$125.

Q Did he get \$125?

MR. NESSEN: For whatever days he worked.

Q For 57 days he received \$125 a day, right?

MR. NESSEN: That is right. Then he also did some work in connection with the Bicentennial Commission. I think he spelled this out in an interview, if I am not mistaken. He also did a little consulting work in the area of the housing industry. He is, as some of you may know, a retired builder.

At that point, there were a number of letters and phone calls coming in here from members of the housing industry and, as I understand it, on some days Jack Stiles was assigned to meet with these people and hear their ideas and answer some of this mail.

Those are about the areas in which he acted as a consultant.

MORE

#130



Q Ron, does Mr. Stiles' appearance on the payroll as a consultant, in view of his previous record as having engineered many of Mr. Ford's Congressional campaigns, violate the spirit of Executive Order 11222?

MR. NESSEN: I do not know what the Executive Order is, Walt.

Q "It is just as important to avoid the appearance of a conflict or unethical conduct as an actual one. Conduct may be short of a legal infraction, but if it leads the public to question the integrity of the government and its officials, harm is done. In such instances, even if there was no impropriety intended or practiced, the Administration or members of the staff may be required to spend an inordinate amount of time explaining or defending innocent actions rather than implementing the objectives of the President and a cloud may be cast over the merits of our decisions," and that was passed out by you people on the day Don Rumsfeld reorganized the White House.

MR. NESSEN: I do not know how it applies to Jack Stiles. I am told Stiles has absolutely nothing to do here with politics or campaigning or anything that could be considered a political activity.

Q Does the President plan to continue using him as a consultant?

MR. NESSEN: I am told that the fairly limited days that he has spent here as a consultant -- from time-to-time he may spend a couple of days doing something the President --

Q When was the last time he was here?

MR. NESSEN: He is back in Grand Rapids now, and he has been back for a while, so it has not been any time --

Q Ron, I don't think I got an answer to my question?

MR. NESSEN: What was it?

Q You gave a lengthy review of some of the things Mr. Stiles is working on. What I asked about was the propriety of having a man as consultant to the President who pleaded guilty to hitting a policeman.

MORE

#130



MR. NESSEN: Well, I, myself, am not very familiar with that allegation. Consultants, as I understand it, have a name check run on them and, then, if they continue, over a period to serve, as a consultant, the full FBI clearance procedure is followed. And if he does continue -- I understand that clearance process has been done on Jack Stiles, so anything along the lines that you suggest, if it took place, would show up in that FBI report.

Q On the assumption that this showed up in the FBI full field check, or whatever it was -- and we do assume that, I suppose -- then a decision was made by someone that this did not bar him from serving as a consultant, and if so, who made that decision?

MR. NESSEN: I think the President is an old friend of Jack Stiles and probably knows his personal background.

Q So then, your answer is, the President finds no impropriety in using as a consultant a man who pleaded guilty to hitting a policeman?

MR. NESSEN: I guess you will have to round it out yourself, Jim.

Q You do not dispute that interpretation?

MR. NESSEN: I am saying, the President is a friend of his and knows his background, and whatever there may be on his record, if anything, would certainly show up in the FBI report.

Q You seem to have a lot of information on the subject this morning, have you talked to the President about Jack Stiles today, or have you talked to him about Jack Stiles?

MR. NESSEN: I have talked to some staff people in the building in order to answer some of your anticipated questions.

Q Did the President or these staff people have anything specifically to say about these things that Jim was asking about?

MR. NESSEN: I think I have given you the answers I obtained from talking to the staff people.

MORE

#130



Q Did you talk to the President, specifically, about Jack Stiles?

MR. NESSEN: I really don't think I ought to go into details of my conversations with the President.

Q Ron, is Jack Stiles' work requested and carried out at the specific direction of the President or some other staff member?

MR. NESSEN: No. He, in the organization, is assigned to Jack Marsh's operation, which deals with public liaison and miscellaneous events, so that is where he shows up in the organization chart. Things like the Bicentennial and swimming pool and housing industry contacts came out of Jack Marsh's office.

Q He does not work in direct contact with the President, does he?

MR. NESSEN: No, he does not.

MORE

#130



Q Ron, we don't have access to the FBI checks. Can you confirm that in fact he did plead guilty to the charge of assault and battery?

MR. NESSEN: I don't think this is the right place to get into what a man may or may not have done.

Q This story, Ron, is being carried by the Booth Newspapers, and I assume you have seen it since you seem quite familiar with it. Are you denying the Booth Newspaper story?

MR. NESSEN: I don't know where to begin on the Booth Newspaper story, Jim. I prepared myself to answer what I thought would be some specific questions and I am prepared to do that. I don't know the need to go --

Q You do not deny the statements made in the Booth Newspaper story?

MR. NESSEN: I think I will just stick to answering whatever questions you care to ask about it.

Q Ron, has the President chosen Jack Stiles to run his campaign in 1976?

MR. NESSEN: No.

Q Will he?

MR. NESSEN: I have no way of knowing.

Q Will the White House continue to use Jack Stiles as a consultant?

MR. NESSEN: I told Phil I thought from time to time he might spend a day or so doing something.

Q Ron, isn't 57 days since October 1 almost full-time work?

MR. NESSEN: I don't think so. What is it -- October, November, December, and most of January.

Q It is more than two-thirds of a five-day week.

MR. NESSEN: I did not figure it out.

Q Would you anticipate that same level of activity in the future?

MR. NESSEN: I have no way of knowing. It depends on if Marsh has anything for him to do.



Q Is Marsh the guy who assigns him to various duties?

MR. NESSEN: He is under Marsh in the organization, yes.

I gave a fairly detailed breakdown of how fuel would be saved under a rationing program. I was asked if I could not provide similar detail on how fuel would be saved under the President's program, and I have that for you now. This is based on the President's program being approved by Congress in all of its parts.

Gasoline--400,000 barrels or 40 percent of the million barrel a day cutback would be from gasoline. That amounts to 17 million gallons a day saving, giving it to you in barrels and gallons; a barrel saving of 400,000 a day, a gallon saving of 17 million a day.

Heating oil would make up 25 percent of the reduction or 250,000 barrels a day saved or reduced heating oil use through higher prices. That amounts to 10.5 million gallons a day.

Residual oil -- that is the type of oil used to run public utility generators for instance, and industrial machinery -- the saving expected in residual oil use through the higher prices would be 25 percent, amounting to another 250,000 barrels a day, another 10.5 million gallons a day.

The remaining 10 percent of the saving, equal to 100,000 barrels a day or 4.2 million gallons a day, would be saved. The higher prices would be expected to reduce that amount from jet fuel, petroleum products used in the chemical industry and so-called feed stock petroleum used in the making of plastics and so forth.

To run over these quickly again, gasoline would account for 40 percent of the reduction, 400,000 barrels a day, 17 million gallons a day; home heating oil, 25 percent or 250,000 barrels a day, or 10.5 million gallons a day; residual oil used by utilities and industries, 25 percent, 250,000 barrels, 10.5 million gallons; jet fuel, petroleum, for the chemical industry and feed stocks for plastics, 10 percent of the reduction equal to 100,000 barrels a day, or 4.2 million gallons.

To take this a bit further, the President's program would work if the higher prices persuaded drivers to save or to buy four or five gallons a month less. That is equal to about a gallon a week.

MORE



Stiles  
Jack

Friday 1/24/75

3:40 Mildred Leonard thought you should know -- in case you don't already -- that Jack Stiles is looking into the possibility of having the book "Portrait of An Assassin" reprinted.

Bill Casselman:  
Kindly advise Stiles  
about position previously  
taken in this regard, and  
report to me in results.  
P



*Noted*

Friday 1/24/75

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P.

CHL - J SPOME  
W STILES 1/31/75  
GAVE HIM A COPY  
OK YOUR VARIETY  
LETTER, ATTACHED.  
WEN

January 22, 1975

Dear Mr. Davis:

The President has asked me to reply to your letter of December 6, 1974, requesting his permission to prepare a television script based on the material contained in Portrait of an Assassin, a book which he co-authored in 1964 with Mr. John R. Stiles.

While the President appreciates your interest in the historic and dramatic significance of the events portrayed in this work, it is nevertheless the opinion of this office that the preparation of a script or other reuse of this material would be inappropriate during the President's term of office. Simon & Shuster, Inc., holders of the publication rights were recently advised to the same effect with respect to any reprinting of Portrait of an Assassin.

Mr. William E. Casselman II of this office has taken the liberty of informing your attorneys, Wyman, Bautzer, Rothman & Kuchel, of our determination in this matter.

Sincerely,

15/  
Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Mr. Sheldon Davis  
Executive Producer  
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Inc.  
10202 West Washington Blvd.  
Culver City, California 90230

bcc: Honorable Thomas Kuchel

WEC:bw



Wednesday 1/29/75

*Stiles*  
*Jack*

Meeting  
1/30/75  
4:30 p.m.

5:05 Nell Yates advises the President will meet with Jack Stiles for 30 minutes tomorrow (Thursday 1/30) at 4:30 p.m. --- off-the-record. He would like you to join.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 29, 1975

Dear John:

Many thanks for your letter. I was glad to hear from you, and I particularly want to thank you for your purpose in writing. Needless to say, I share your high regard for Jack Stiles. He has been a good friend for many years, and I value not only his friendship, but his keen political insights.

Knowing Jack's good nature, I'm sure he'll weather this well. We've all been around politics long enough to know that the time to really worry is when they start saying nice things about you!

With my thanks, and with warm personal regards.

Sincerely,

John P. Milanowski, Esq.  
Milanowski & Milanowski  
Suite 601  
Peoples Building  
60-66 Monroe Avenue, N.W.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502



THE WHITE HOUSE

John P. Milanowski, Esq.  
Milanowski & Milanowski  
Suite 601  
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GRF:AVH:RLE:aby



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Suite 601  
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John P. Milanowski, Esq.  
Milanowski & Milanowski  
Suite 601  
Peoples Building  
60-66 Monroe Avenue, N.W.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502

GRF:AVH:RLE:aby



## MILANOWSKI &amp; MILANOWSKI

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Suite 601 Peoples Building  
60-66 Monroe Avenue, N.W.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502

John P. Milanowski  
Thomas A. Milanowski

Wencel A. Milanowski  
of Counsel

January 23, 1975

RE  
Mr. Gerald R. Ford, Jr.  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jerry:

I am appalled at the story and therefore the injustice done to our mutual friend, Jack Stiles. Without going into any details I urge you to keep him on, providing it can be done within the framework of the law. I think you need him. I think he is a man who has the best political acumen of any person I have ever known. Needless to say, I would not write this letter unless I thought your support is needed on his behalf. Incidentally, I am sure he would be willing to work without pay.

Sincerely,

JPM:mm

  
John P. Milanowski



View  
**MILANOWSKI & MILANOWSKI**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Suite 601 Peoples Building  
60-66 Monroe Avenue, N.W.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502



*Air Mail*

Mr. Gerald R. Ford, Jr.  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

January 9, 1975

Mr. John P. Milanowski  
Milanowski & Milanowski  
Attorneys at Law  
Suite 601, Peoples Building  
60-66 Monroe Avenue, N. W.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502

Dear John:

President Ford was most pleased to autograph the enclosed Inaugural Addresses and has asked me to forward them to you with his kindest regards.

With best wishes for the new year.

Sincerely,

(Miss) Mildred Leonard  
Personal Assistant to  
the President

*3 copies signed*

ML:km



**MILANOWSKI & MILANOWSKI**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
Suite 601 Peoples Building  
60-66 Monroe Avenue, N.W.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502

John P. Milanowski  
Thomas A. Milanowski

Wencel A. Milanowski  
of Counsel

December 23, 1974

Miss Mildred Leonard  
Special Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mildred:

Will you please sign the enclosed with Jerry's signature  
and send them back to me. These are the children of some  
friends of the President.

Sincerely,

  
John P. Milanowski

JPM/mb  
Enc.

*1-6-75*

*Smile please!*  
*Hi to Doty!*  
*Happy New Year!*



MILANOWSKI & MILANOWSKI

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
Suite 201 Peoples Building  
60-60 Monroe Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20047

Name	Date
Mr. Ellert	11/27/75

December 23, 1974

Miss Mildred Leonard  
Special Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

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John P. Milanowski

JPM/mb  
Enc.



*Handwritten:*  
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THE WHITE HOUSE

DATE	NAME
10/10/50	Mr. and Mrs. John P. Milanowski

Mr. and Mrs. John P. Milanowski  
18 Worcester Drive, N. E.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

70-2

09 20 74 2140



WHITE HOUSE

Name	Date
Mr Elliott	1/27/75

Mr. and Mrs. John F. Kennedy  
18 Westmoreland Street  
New York, New York 10023

0512 42 04 PO



**THIS FILE HAS BEEN CHARGED OUT OF THE WHITE HOUSE CENTRAL  
FILES. PLEASE RETURN PROMPTLY.**

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 29, 1975

Dear Hal:

Many thanks for your thoughtful letter. I am especially glad to see that you took the time to set the record straight with the editor of the Grand Rapids Press. I agree with you that Jack Stiles is just too nice a person to have this kind of attack go unchallenged. Needless to say, I value his friendship -- and his political advice.

Knowing Jack's good nature, I feel certain he will weather this well. We've all been around politics long enough to know that the time to really worry is when they start saying nice things about you!

With my thanks and with warm personal regards.

Sincerely,

Harold S. Sawyer, Esq.  
Warner, Norcross & Judd  
One Vandenberg Center  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502



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