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THE WASHINGTON STAR, Sunday, November 2, 1975

# Mystery Trip of Stans

## Hunt to Nicaragua

By Jeremiah O'Leary  
Washington Star Staff Writer

ernment Operations Committee,  
headed by Rep. Jack Brooks, D-Tex.,

The investigation was begun when  
The Washington Star disclosed re-

## EX-ENVOY LANDS ON NICARAGUA'S NEW CURRENCY

The State Department received a cable from the U.S. embassy in Managua, Nicaragua, last week reporting that former Ambassador Turner B. Shelton appears on a new

W. Star  
11-6-75  
P.A. 2

# Stans: No '72 Trip to Nicaragua

Maurice H. Stans, commerce secretary during the Nixon administration, has

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Stans' attorney, Robert W. Barker, issued a denial, saying. "The story in The Star contains false facts and innuendo. . . . Mr. Stans did not go to Nicaragua in 1972. . . . Had The Star checked with Mr. Stans in advance of running the story, it would have learned that there was absolutely no substance to it."

A check with the sources for the story disclosed that they had been in error. Stans made one trip to Nicaragua in 1970 in his capacity as commerce secretary. He did not make a trip

*Turner Shelton*

SPEECH OF SENATOR CARL T. CURTIS FOR THE SENATE

FLOOR THE AFTERNOON OF NOVEMBER 3, 1975.



Mr. President:

I find it is necessary that I make a statement to the Senate and to the public on a very important matter. It is important because I shall speak of some actions which interfere with the orderly operation of this government. I shall speak concerning the scandalous, false, and misleading articles written by Mr. Jeremiah O'Leary and published in the Washington Star.

For me to keep silent would be unfair to myself. It would be unfair to a distinguished public servant, the Honorable Turner Shelton, who is in the process of being appointed Ambassador to the Bahamas, and to others mentioned in the O'Leary articles.

During Ambassador Shelton's twenty-eight years in government service, he served under seven presidents beginning with President Franklin D. Roosevelt. He has received commendations for outstanding performance and the highest awards for excellence given by the Government of the United States. These have included both the



Distinguished Service Award and the Award of Valor.

He was selected to initiate and help to negotiate the Cultural Exchange Agreement with Russia and Rumania and spent approximately six months in those countries. He was complimented by Secretary Dulles for his performance.

He served two years as Counselor of the American Legation in Budapest, Hungary, and on the basis of his performance there was made Consul General to the Bahamas. Because of the excellent efficiency reports while serving in the Bahamas, President Nixon selected him as Ambassador to Nicaragua. I do not believe that any Ambassador ever had a better record representing the United States than he did in Nicaragua as attested by the fact that then Secretary of State William Rogers personally presented him and his staff with one of the highest awards the State Department can give -- the Award of Valor.

The Government of Nicaragua, upon his departure, presented him with the highest award available to any individual, the Ruben



Dario Award.

Every American can take pride in Ambassador Shelton's service in connection with the disastrous 1972 earthquake in Nicaragua. On January 8, 1973, Maurice J. Williams, the President's Special Coordinator for Emergency Relief to Nicaragua in a signed memorandum to the President said:

"\* \* \* It is a pleasure to report that the performance of Ambassador Turner B. Shelton and his staff during the recovery was outstanding, even heroic. \* \* \* In particular, Ambassador Shelton is deserving of special commendation. Throughout the emergency he performed with exceptional skill and courage a task that would test great generals. Nicaragua and we are fortunate that he was there when the challenge came."

Mr. President, in pointing out the wrongful acts and the falsehoods of this one writer, and this one newspaper, I want to express my respect and admiration for the honest, conscientious, and reliable members of the press. I am sure that the vast majority



of the men and women of the media fall into that category. I appeal to them and to their sense of fairness in this matter.

Mr. O'Leary's articles, because they were false and unreliable, have been damaging and unfair not only to Ambassador Shelton, but to many others mentioned. The O'Leary articles have been false and unfair to me. Mr. O'Leary's irresponsible writings have been most unfair to President Ford.

We live in troubled days, and the burdens and responsibilities falling on the President of the United States are tremendous. Of course, it is in the public interest that all the facts be presented to the American people. And, it is clearly in the public interest that positions, acts, and issues be challenged and debated.

But, it is not in the public interest for a reporter to resort to falsehoods, innuendoes, misleading propaganda and lies because they make it more difficult for the President and all public officials to make a sound judgment based on truth.



Mr. President, in order to set the record straight, I wish to report the words of Mr. O'Leary and then in each instance set forth the true facts in the form of a statement made by Ambassador Turner Shelton.

Mr. O'Leary:

"Why did Shelton acquire ground from Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza for a new embassy in earthquake-shattered Managua without a written lease and for a 10-year-span at a token payment of \$1 a year?"

Ambassador Shelton's statement of facts:

"The 10 year lease for the land on which the temporary pre-fabricated chancery in Managua is constructed is a written lease and was obtained for \$1.00 a year in order to provide a location outside of the earthquake zone for the construction of this temporary facility. Further negotiations are successfully going forward for an extension of this lease and I had President Somoza's personal assurance that he would ask his family to approve a 20 year extension to this lease."

Mr. O'Leary:

"Did Shelton, while serving as ambassador there, use embassy stationery to write wealthy friends in the California movie colony urging them to contribute to Nixon's second presidential campaign?"

The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"I have never written a letter on any stationery, official or otherwise, soliciting funds for any individual or political campaign. I may add that neither have I solicited such funds orally."



Mr. O'Leary:

"Did Shelton, while serving in both the Bahamas and in Nicaragua, order U.S. consular employees to cut legal corners to send Bahamian and Nicaraguan maids to friends in the United States, including at least one member of the House?"

The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"I have never 'cut legal corners' in connection with any matter relating to immigration or otherwise."

Mr. O'Leary:

"Why did Shelton receive Hughes' security chief, Jim Golden, as a house guest in his official residence on the outskirts of Managua before the eccentric multi-millionaire moved into the Managua Intercontinental Hotel early in 1972?"

The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"Jim Golden, a former White House secret service agent, has been a personal friend of mine for a number of years. His wife is the daughter of the former Turkish Ambassador to Peru and Brazil, and a personal friend of my wife. They came to Nicaragua on a vacation and were guests in my home for approximately three days. Mr. Golden is now with the Department of Justice. His connection with Hughes, if any, had nothing to do with the visit to my home."

Mr. O'Leary:

"Why did Shelton arrange a personal meeting between Gen. Somoza and Hughes after Hughes arrived for a stay that lasted only until the Christmas week earthquake destroyed the Nicaraguan capital?"

The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"I arranged a personal meeting between Mr. Howard Hughes and President



"Somoza at the request of Mr. Hughes who stated that he wished to express his personal appreciation to President Somoza and to me for the courtesy and hospitality with which he had been treated during his stay in Nicaragua. It was a purely social meeting and no business was discussed."

Mr. O'Leary:

"For what purpose did Shelton make a number of trips to Key Biscayne, Florida, to see Rebozo and Nixon while he was ambassador to Nicaragua?"

The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"I have never visited Key Biscayne, Florida, for the purpose of seeing either President Nixon or Mr. Rebozo. To the best of my knowledge Mr. Nixon was never in Florida when I visited Key Biscayne."

Mr. O'Leary:

"The contributions of Shelton and his wealthy wife, the former Lesly Starr, to Nixon's campaigns are not in contention."

The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"Neither my wife nor I has ever made a contribution to any political campaign or to any candidate."

Mr. O'Leary:

"Shelton unquestionably ingratiated himself with Nixon in 1961, when Nixon's political career was at low ebb and Shelton was counselor of the American legation in Budapest, Hungary.

"Shelton gave Nixon the red-carpet treatment when Nixon was touring Europe after his defeat for the presidency."



The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"When former President Nixon visited Hungary while I was serving in Budapest as Charge d'Affaires I treated him with every courtesy I would show to any American citizen who had been a Member of the House, a Member of the Senate and Vice President. I should add that the treatment I accorded Mr. Nixon was given to others regardless of political affiliation.

Mr. O'Leary:

"His reporting was challenged in 1974 by a young political officer in the Managua embassy, James R. Cheek. When Kissinger saw Cheek's report, he concluded that Shelton was presenting far too optimistic a picture of Somoza's popularity and the nature of opposition to the general."

The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"The error of the Cheek dissent seems obvious in light of subsequent election in Nicaragua. The tenor of the Cheek dissent was that I did not recognize the strength of the political opposition to President Somoza. In the election following that dissent President Somoza's party received approximately 92% of the vote which would seem to make the dissent quite questionable."

Mr. O'Leary:

"That he paid for personal services and expenses out of government funds. . . . Officials in the State Department, who declined to be identified, said Shelton habitually gave a loose interpretation to what were personal expenses and what were governmental duties in his use of consulate and embassy funds."

The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:



"I have never confused Embassy or Consulate business with personal affairs. I have never paid any private bills with public funds. I have on occasion advanced my own personal funds for official business when the official funds were inadequate."

Mr. O'Leary:

"There also are unconfirmed reports that Shelton left unpaid debts in Nassau when he shifted to Managua."

The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"I have never left unpaid personal debts anywhere in my life and did not leave unpaid debts in Nassau."

Mr. O'Leary:

"...that he (Shelton) used embassy phones to make long distance calls to try to drum up support for keeping his ambassadorial post."

The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"In order to pay for any portion of these calls referred to in the closing portion of my service in Nicaragua, I gave my personal check to the Embassy's Finance Officer in the sum of approximately \$600.00 and left a memorandum asking that if any other bills came in of personal charges, I be notified so that I might pay them."

Mr. O'Leary:

"Mysterious trips to Managua, Nicaragua, by President Richard M. Nixon's finance chairman, Maurice Stans, and by White House 'plumber' E. Howard Hunt in 1972 have been uncovered in connection with the current investigation of former Ambassador Turner B. Shelton. . . . Vesco lived in the Bahamas and then in Costa Rica, where he still resides, during the period of the Stans trip to Nicaragua."



The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"I have never met or even seen Mr. Vesco. I have never met or even seen Mr. E. Howard Hunt. I have never communicated in any way with Mr. Vesco or Mr. Hunt. I have seen Howard Hughes once when I introduced him to the President of Nicaragua at Mr. Hughes' request."

Mr. O'Leary:

"Informed sources said Stans returned to Managua after he resigned from the cabinet to become finance chairman of the Committee to Re-elect the President. The sources said Hunt, involved in the Watergate burglary and other arcane operations during his service in the White House, also visited Nicaragua in period before the 1972 election.

The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"Former Secretary of Commerce Stans visited Nicaragua during the first month of my assignment there as Ambassador. He was on an official visit as Secretary of Commerce and was treated accordingly. If Mr. Stans ever came to Nicaragua at any other time I have no knowledge of it. I seriously doubt that he was ever in Nicaragua except on the official visit mentioned.

Mr. O'Leary:

"It was in the same period that the Watergate investigation linked the Nixon re-election committee (CREP) with money-laundering operations in Mexico to conceal the source of illegal campaign contributions to the committee."



The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"I have never received, transmitted, handled or in any manner had any connection with political contributions to former President Nixon or anyone else."

Mr. O'Leary:

"Shelton was a small contributor to Nixon's campaign but ingratiated himself with the former president in the early 1960s."

The facts as stated by Ambassador Shelton:

"I have never contributed to former President Nixon's campaigns or to any other political campaigns. Neither has my wife. I have never written a letter on any stationery, official or otherwise, soliciting campaign funds for former President Nixon or any other politician."

Mr. President, the facts are that the Honorable Turner Shelton, who is about to be appointed Ambassador to the Bahamas, is an honest, dependable, outstanding American citizen. He has a long record of public service to which our nation can point with pride. The smears and the innuendos and falsehoods, of which Mr. O'Leary is guilty, represent a black mark in the public life of America. What Mr. O'Leary has done is unfair to every newsman of integrity in our country.

Mr. President, in discussing this matter with the distinguished Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, we have but one request. Let us develop the facts in a fair and judicious manner, and on that we rest our case.



Sheldon

November 21, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY

FROM: JACK MARSH

I would like to mention to you a matter involving Turner Sheldon whose name is under consideration for possible nomination to an Ambassador's post.

As you know, this is a hote potato and Doug Bennett is very concerned about what might happen to it.

JOM/dl



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

11/25/75

JACK,

Coincidentally I spoke with Max about Turner Sheldon several days ago. Neither they nor we have heard anything further from Carl Curtis or anyone else on Sheldon since our last go around. I am assuming Sheldon's posture is "no news is good news", and that we intend to slip this in when the holiday season has gripped the Congress. Max agrees that Curtis, if queried, would be as adamant as ever.

RUSS



NOV 25 1975

*Sheldon*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 21, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY

FROM: JACK MARSH *Jack*

*see me*

I would like to mention to you a matter involving Turner Sheldon whose name is under consideration for possible nomination to an Ambassador's post.

As you know, this is a hot potato and Doug Bennett is very concerned about what might happen to it.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 26, 1975

*Mandy*  
NOV 29 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: RICHARD B. CHENEY

FROM: DOUGLAS P. BENNETT

*DPB*

SUBJECT: Turner Shelton

Don Shasteen, Administrative Assistant to Senator Curtis, under instructions from the Senator, called me late this afternoon to urge that clearances be expedited so that this nomination can reach the Senate next week. He is under the impression that the clearances are almost final and that they did not uncover any hard evidence adverse to the nomination of Shelton. I am advised by Larry Eagleburger at the State Department that the domestic FBI investigation has been completed and the overseas investigation is expected to be concluded in the near future.

Clearly, Carl Curtis continues to be most interested in Turner Shelton. Based upon the time schedule for completion of all the clearances, it would appear that no action may be taken within the next couple of weeks.





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 18, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: JACK MARSH

FROM: RUSS ROURKE *Rourke*

I can only assume that the attached has been the subject of a recent conversation between you and Doug Bennett/Peter McPherson.

If this is not so, please let me know and I will be glad to jump in with Presidential Personnel. If this is to move forward, we should alert Max and his people for the anticipated fall out.

*JM*  
*Indexed  
12/22  
9:00  
E*



DEC 18 1975

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*due: 12/19*

DEC 18 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: COUNSELLOR MARSH'S OFFICE  
FROM: PRESIDENTIAL PERSONNEL OFFICE *DS*  
SUBJECT: Ambassador to the Bahamas

Attached is a copy of our proposed memorandum to the President discussing the nomination of Turner Shelton as Ambassador to the Bahamas.

As we wish to finalize this recommendation by next week, please have your office let Robin West's office (ext. 2981) know of your opinion ~~within three days from receipt of this letter~~ *5 am tomorrow* in order that we may accurately represent your views in the final decision memorandum. If we have not heard from your office by that time, we will assume that you have no opinion and go forward with the memorandum. Your observations and assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much.

Attachments



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

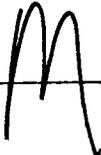
THROUGH: RICHARD B. CHENEY  
FROM: DOUGLAS P. BENNETT  
SUBJECT: Ambassador to the Bahamas

This memorandum seeks your approval of the nomination of Turner Shelton to be Ambassador to the Bahamas. A career profile is attached for your review (Tab A).

Turner Shelton, 60, a Career Foreign Service Officer, currently is situated at the Department of State awaiting possible reassignment. Prior to returning to Washington, D. C., he was the Ambassador to Nicaragua. He has served as Principal Officer in Nassau; Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, Department of State; Counselor to the Legation, Budapest; and as a Special Assistant in the Bureau of European Affairs, Department of State.

Mr. Shelton attended the University of Virginia and the University of Richmond, and received his FSO-2 ranking in 1961. His legal residence is Beverly Hills, California and he is represented by Congressman Thomas Rees (D).

Secretary Kissinger recommends the nomination of Mr. Shelton, and I concur.

 \_\_\_\_\_ Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove



TURNER B. SHELTON

Mr. Shelton attended the University of Virginia 1932-34 and 1936-41 (part time); University of Richmond 1935. He served as Chief Clerk, Treasury Department, Advertising Specialist, War Bonds Division (CAF 7-11) 1942-45. He was a Motion Picture Producer and Executive, Hollywood 1945-51.

His other assignments include:

1953-61 - Production Adviser, United States Information Agency, Deputy Director, Assistant Director, Director, International Motion Picture Service (GS-15-17)

1961 - Appointed FSO-2, Department of State

1961-62 - Special Assistant, Bureau of European Affairs

1962-64 - Counselor of Legation, Budapest

1964 - Special Assistant to Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs, Department

1966-70 - Principal Officer, Nassau

October 30, 1970 to October 1975 - Ambassador to Nicaragua

He is married to the former Lesly Starr.

Date of Birth: December 13, 1915

Legal Residence: Beverly Hills, California



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

October 23, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: ROBERT S. INGERSOLL, ACTING SECRETARY *RSI*  
SUBJECT: Nomination of Ambassador to the  
Commonwealth of the Bahamas

The Secretary and I recommend that you nominate Turner B. Shelton of Beverly Hills, California, former Ambassador to Nicaragua, to be Ambassador to the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

A biographic resumé of Mr. Shelton is attached.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

Attachment:

As stated.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE



January 27, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM TO: DOUG BENNETT  
FROM: RUSS ROURKE

Rep. John Flynt called me to express his continuing support for Turner Sheldon. He is convinced that the 'interim negative report from the Bahamas will not stand up and that the Prime Minister will most certainly come in with a final positive recommendation.'

cc: JMarsh  
MFriedersdorf

RAR:cb



January 27, 1976

*Sheldon*

*Sumner*

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM TO: DOUG BENNETT  
FROM: RUSS ROURKE

Doug, the attached note and enclosure from Jerry O'Leary are self-explanatory.

At this point I truly believe that Jerry is simply trying to be helpful...

cc: JMarsh  
RAR:cb



JAN 23 1976

# Washington Star-News

225 VIRGINIA AVE., S.E., WASHINGTON, D. C. 20003

Jan. 23

Dear Russ:

This is the unsigned letter that was mailed to me from somewhere in Maryland on January 2. I don't care much for anonymous mail but the same questions also were sent to the various committees, I am told, and these may be some of the questions that will arise.

I have no idea who the sender may be.

*Jerry*  
Jerry



Questions to ponder while considering the suitability of Turner B. Shelton for another ambassadorial post including the following:

1. What was the true purpose of the \$100,000 that Howard Hughes purportedly gave to Bebe Rebozo as a campaign donation and was then left in a safe deposit box in Miami for so long? Could it have been to purchase the ambassadorship in Managua for Shelton, so that he could act as Hughes' agent in negotiations with Anastasio Somoza.

2. What was the relationship between Hughes and Shelton when both were residing in the Bahamas, and Shelton was the Consul General? What was Rebozo's connection with Hughes and Shelton at that time?

3. What were the results of the Foreign Service investigation of Shelton's tenure as Consul General in the Bahamas? Why were there allegations of fraud, theft, misappropriation of Government funds and matériel in connection with this investigation conducted by Frederick Chapin of the FS Inspector General's staff?

4. What were the true circumstances surrounding the death of the Consul, James Hargrove, in Managua shortly after the earthquake? What threats and abuse had he suffered that drove him to suicide?

5. Why did members of the Administrative Section of the embassy continually allege that Mrs Shelton was collecting twice for all entertainment she conducted? In the same vein, what happened to sheets, pillowcases, towels, soap and many other household items that disappeared from the residence, and were reportedly shipped to Boston?

6. How did President Somoza come into possession of classified Embassy documents which reported on the legitimate, non-partisan opposition, especially when many of the documents were clearly marked for no dissemination abroad or not releasable to foreign nationals?

7. Why were Embassy officers instructed by Amb Shelton that, under no circumstances, were they to have any contact with members of the Nicaraguan political opposition to Somoza?



8. Was rental of La Cuesta Country Club, the first temporary embassy site following the earthquake, a device on Shelton's part to help out Somoza and certain colleagues who were in a financial bind? La Cuesta Country Club was bankrupt, the shareholders were losing money because the club had attracted members who would not pay their dues or their bills. The shareholders were predominantly Somoza family members and compatriots; the US Government's rental of the Club was a great boon to them. Yet it served very poorly as a temporary embassy.

9. What was the true relationship between Shelton and Somoza? Did Shelton receive some, as yet unrevealed, benefits from Somoza in return for his extraordinary conduct of US affairs in Nicaragua? Has the IRS ever examined Shelton for possible undeclared income or assets?

10. What was the Hughes and Shelton relationship in Nicaragua? It should be noted that Shelton is the last man who acknowledges seeing Hughes. He was given an interview with Hughes in mid-72 after which he laid to rest press reports that Hughes was bearded, with six-inch nails, ill, incompetent, etc. Why was a distant cousin of Hughes, who mainly played polo while in Managua, assigned to the Embassy at that time? Was Shelton in the pay of Hughes during his tenure as ambassador; to act as his agent in the establishment of Hughes' business headquarters in Nicaragua?

11. What are the true facts surrounding the dismissal of the CIA Station Chief immediately after the earthquake? Was the COS incompetent and alcoholic as Shelton alleged, or was Shelton trying to suppress CIA reporting on corruption of the Somoza regime, misuse of relief funds and foodstuffs, profiteering by Somoza and his compatriots, and pillage of the destroyed city by the National Guard?

12. Why did the Chief of the USIS office have to personally deliver his reports to Washington after three futile months attempting to secure their release by Shelton? Was Shelton advised by the Dept of State some months after the earthquake to stop sitting on his Political Section and USIS reporting and forward it immediately? If so, why was he doing this?

13. What happened to the very considerable amounts of AID money that were appropriated for the reconstruction of the



city? What percentage of these funds were funneled into Somoza's pocket? And was this known to Shelton? For example, the company which won the contract to demolish damaged buildings after the earthquake was hastily formed by Somoza, Col Ivan "Pepe" Allegrett, one of his closest confidants, and several other friends. I believe that they charged exorbitant prices to demolish buildings, something that Allegrett, as commander of the engineer battalion, would otherwise have done in the normal course of his duties. Another case of flagrant profiteering was the purchase, by Somoza and his family, of land where a refugee camp was to be constructed. They purchased land one week for a minimal sum, and the next week offered it to AID and Shelton at an immense profit, as suitable for the refugee camp. Did Shelton know this had occurred? Another Somoza company constructed the shacks erected on this land. Very few refugees eventually lived in this camp because of continual flooding after the rains began.

14. Why was the Consul who replaced Hargrove in 73 unhappy over visas being granted by the Embassy? Why was the DCM, Leyland Warner, requested by the Consul to surrender his official Consular seal to the Consul? Had Shelton ordered the DCM to issue a visa to a questionable person who the Consul had correctly denied a visa on a previous occasion?

15. Shelton has often stated that Somoza must be supported because of his anti-communist stance, and avows there is no viable alternative to Somoza in Nicaragua? Is this true? What is the political opposition in Nicaragua? Is it not true that the opposition is just as pro-US and anti-communist as Somoza's Liberal Party? Is it not true that the communist party is very small, possibly sixty active members, fragmented, and ineffectual, and represents no threat to the country? Is not the terrorist organization, the FSLN, equally small, more nationalist than communist, and spawned by Somoza's repression than by Marxist ideology? How popular is Somoza, and how much has the prestige, good name, and influence of the USA suffered by apparent close embrace of Somoza during Shelton's tenure in Managua? Was Shelton following State or White House instructions during his close alliance with Somoza?

16. What role did Mrs Shelton play in Managua? Did she



author and edit classified cables to the Department? Was she cleared for access to classified material? If so, by whom, and for what reason? Did she engineer the expulsion from Nicaragua of a senior US communications security officer after he correctly denied her access to the highly sensitive cryptographic communications center of the embassy? Did Mrs Shelton order the illegal diversion of embassy maintenance funds to finance the refurbishment of her palatial hilltop residence? Did she use every facility at her command, and, by extension, the ambassador's, to wreck the careers of any officers of the embassy whose wives did not kowtow to her?

17. Are Shelton and his wife the type of representatives we desire to head our embassies abroad?



March 9

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Jack:

FYI, the United States by cable, has withdrawn its request for agrimaar (?) (agreement) on Turner Sheldon. Word of this leaked by State to O'Leary last night. O'Leary called Larry Eagleberger, who blew his cork. Screamed and yelled about finding people at State.

Just curious as to whether or not Bennett and Co. advised you of this action.

Russ

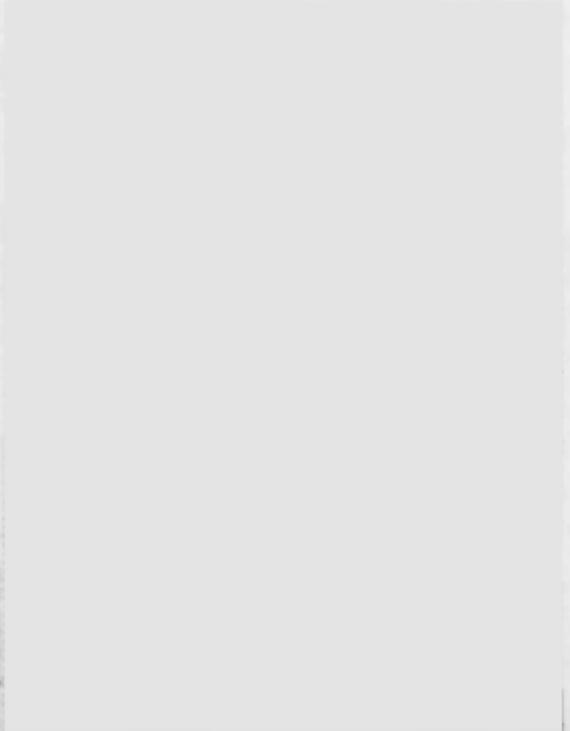


Washington Star News  
Tuesday, March 9, 1976

# U.S. Withdraws Shelton's Name For Nassau Post

By Jeremiah O'Leary  
Washington Star Staff Writer

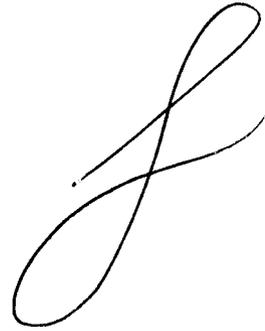
The climax came after one of his subordinates received the Foreign Service Officers' Association award



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 7, 1976



EYES ONLY

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM TO: JACK MARSH

FROM: RUSS ROURKE *Rued*

Jack, on Friday evening of last week, Gerry O'Leary called me with a detailed breakdown on the latest Turner Shelton episode. You will recall that the Consul General approach was conceived, in part, to avoid the necessity of Senate approval.

It was subsequently determined, however, that Shelton's commission, having expired around the time he reached age 61, the President would have to submit his name to the Hill along with all other "new" Consul General commission appointments. This put us right back where we started.

O'Leary advised that the Consul General's Association published a letter opposing Shelton. The newspapers in Bermuda were running front page stories about "the Bahamian reject". Both Jack Brooks and Chuck Percy were gearing up for an anti-Shelton blast. Max's memo and the attached "Presidential mail" item re Abe Ribicoff's letter added further fuel to the fire.

McPherson advises me this morning that it now looks as though "this is not going to happen. Eagleburger appears to be backing off, and the people around here are in favor of dropping Shelton matter altogether."

cc: MFriedersdorf



APR 5 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 3, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JACK MARSH  
BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM:

MAX FRIEDERSDORF

*M.G.*

SUBJECT:

Turner Shelton

Chairman Wayne Hays called personally to warn there will be two investigative hearings convened if Turner Shelton is given the Bermuda Consul General post.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~/EYES ONLY

*R — Status?*  
*M*

Determined to be an  
Administrative Marking



By SP NARA, Date 4/16/14

APR 7 1976

President's Mail - April 6, 1976

House

1. Charles Diggs  
Donald Fraser      Send detailed telegram about the threat of a major armed conflict in Southern Rhodesia. Believe the President should bring all the weight of his office to bear upon getting the Congress to repeal the Byrd Amendment now. Say that in view of the fact that an amendment to the Defense Authorization bill to repeal the Byrd Amendment will be offered in the Rules Committee meeting April 7, "the time for you to act is now."
2. William Cotter      Expresses his concern, and that of his constituents, over the so-called Sonnenfeldt Doctrine. Requests the President's views on the status of Eastern European nations, and requests a literal transcript of Mr. Sonnenfeldt's remarks.
3. Frank Thompson      Writes as the original sponsor of the legislation creating the Folklife Center (signed January 2) to urge the President to make his appointments to the Center's Board of Trustees. Notes that the Senate and the House have already named theirs.
4. William Whitehurst      Recommends import relief for the domestic stainless steel flatware industry.
5. L. H. Fountain      Recommends import relief for the domestic zipper industry.
6. Walter Jones      Recommends import relief for the domestic zipper industry.
7. Robert Stephens      Writes on behalf of a constituent to recommend the inclusion of athletic shoes in tariff proposals to provide relief for domestic footwear manufacturers.
8. Marjorie Holt      Expresses thanks for the ceremonial pen from the Marianas signing.
9. Harold Johnson      Expresses regret that he was unable to attend the Elk Hills bill signing, because he had two of his bills to take care of on the House Floor.
10. Carl Albert      Extends invitation to a reception in the Speaker's Dining Room on April 13, 6-8 p.m., for Dr. Robert Peabody, author of a book about leadership in the Congress. The author is a professor at Johns Hopkins and a member of the Speaker's staff.



President's Mail - April 6, 1976

House

11. Robert Lagomarsino Strongly recommends that Mrs. Gertrude Calden be appointed to a full three-year term on the National Advisory Council on Adult Education.
12. Trent Lott Reiterates his recommendation of Judge Lawrence Semski for the National Advisory Committee for Juvenile Delinquency Prevention.
13. Charles Grassley Recommends John H. Grant for the Metric Board.
14. Lindy Boggs Endorses invitation to address the World Congress of the American Society of Travel Agents in New Orleans on September 13.
15. John Murtha Requests greetings for Mrs. Catherine Crowley on her 80th birthday April 5.
16. John Murtha Requests greetings for Richard A. Frederick on his 80th birthday April 10.



President's Mail - April 6, 1976

Senate

- 1S Henry Bellmon Sends detailed letter concerning Federal deregulation within the FCC, particularly the possibility that the Federal government should abandon the licensing of CB radios. Says he would be pleased to sponsor the legislation being prepared by the Office of Telecommunications Policy to institute a new system of CB registration which would, in effect, deregulate Federal licensing of Citizens Band radios.
- 2S Carl Curtis Writes, on behalf of the Nebraska Congressional Delegation in further regard to the Delegation's April 2 letter requesting that the State be declared a disaster area because of ice storms. Sends additional information on the damage.
- 3S Abe Ribicoff Says he is disturbed by the proposed appointment of Turner Shelton to be Consul General in Bermuda. Says it is an insult to all qualified consular officers and to the governments of Bermuda and Great Britain, which had already agreed to the appointment of S. Richard Rand.
- 4S Jacob Javits Recommends Raymond Troubh for the SEC.
- 5S Birch Bayh Staffer Urges signing of S. 1941, the animal welfare improvement act.
- 6S Herman Talmadge Endorses invitation for the First Family to attend the opening performance of the historic drama, The McIntosh Trail, on June 18.

