No Deal

Perhaps some time investigative report should give the public a report on a scandal they have failed to find. We have been bombarded with inquiries for example, about Richard Nixon’s presidential pardon. Many suspicious Americans refuse to believe President Ford’s explanation before the House Judiciary committee that he thought the pardon would close the book on Watergate. They suspect there must have been a deal between Nixon and Ford.

For several weeks, we have been seeking evidence of such a deal. We have questioned trusted sources who are close to both Nixon and Ford. One source was actually present at San Clemente during the discussions that led to the pardon.

But if there was an advance agreement between Nixon and Ford, we have found evidence of it. We haven’t uncovered one document, we haven’t located one witness, with information about a Nixon-Ford deal.

In the absence of any evidence to the contrary, we accept President Ford’s word that he pardoned Richard Nixon because he thought it was the right thing to do. We question Ford’s judgments, but we have no reason to question his integrity.

Nato Communists?

Secret intelligence reports warn that two Western nations, both members of the Alliance, are in danger of a Communist collapse. The Communists are already the strongest of the three great blocs of nations.

Intelligence reports note that the Communists are already highly sophisticated. They have toned down the inflammatory propaganda of the past and are preparing instead a foreign policy that would be neither anti-American nor anti-Soviet.

The intelligence reports predict that the Communists will begin to share power with the ruling Christian Democrats and then gradually increase their power. In Portugal, the Communists have come out of hiding as the best organized, most powerful political faction in the country. Already they are moving into position of power in the new government.

The intelligence reports were that US base rights in Portugal’s Azores islands already are in jeopardy.

Klassen Clamor

In the days of the Pony Express, it took four days to get a letter from coast to coast. Today, 100 years and $100 billion later, it still frequently takes four days.

The postal problem is a complicated one, but much of the responsibility for it can be laid on the man who runs the show, Postmaster General John T. Klassen.

Klassen is under investigation by the FBI for accepting a fee from a postal contractor, a story first reported in our daily edition. An investigating committee recently put Klassen’s crooked under oath and discovered that the embattled postal chief had never even talked about his role in a number of post office contracts.

These and other charges have raised a clamor for Klassen’s removal. Rep. Morris Udall, D-Ariz., and Klassen to step aside. Udall’s call for Klassen’s head will soon come from members of the congressmen’s Postal Committee colleagues.

In an attempt to hang on to his post, Klassen has launched a counter-attack. But the handwriting is on the wall. Our source says he will be pushed out by the end of the year.

The TECH

Pentagon drafts race war plan

Washington — Pentagon strategists are quietly formulating plans that could conspire to drag the United States into an African racial war. Here are the inside details:

Most of the oil consumed by the West is shipped in tankers which steam through the Indian Ocean, around South Africa’s Cape of Good Hope. The Soviet Union has been building up its fleet in the Indian Ocean, its designations now believe the Kremlin could easily disrupt the tankers’ journey.

Thus, the United States, in concert with its NATO allies, is proposing to defend the “Cape Route” from the alleged Russian threat. Such plans would undoubtedly require the cooperation of white-ruled South Africa.

NATO officials admitted several months ago that “contingency plans” were being drawn up. Recent reports from South Africa, furthermore, tell of naval visits by the British and French. And US officials are reportedly discussing plans to use South Africa as a defensive base.

The UN document, compiled by consultant Sean Gervasi, concluded: “The debate about the Cape Route... is actually a smokescreen for hiding the real motives of those who organized it.”

A secret US foreign policy document on Southern Africa, National Security Study Memorandum 1959, basically acknowledged that South Africa “hopes to use the small but persistent Soviet naval presence in the Indian Ocean as a basis for some sort of collaboration with the US... with resultant increased US naval presence in the area and use of South African ports.”

Finally, there is the testimony of no less an authority than Central Intelligence Agency Director William Colby. In a closed-door session with a congressional committee two months ago, he described the Soviet presence in the Indian Ocean as “relatively small and inactive.”

There was little choice, Colby added, that South Africa would be tempted to use their fleet in those waters unless the United States did its first.

Mike Peters

"So after a few refreshments the pretty maiden Elizabeth and the handsome conseiloom offered to assist her safely home."

Celebrity

"Life is a dream, the dream is life."

"There are no other arguments, there are only conclusions about arguments and facts."

"You cannot teach a man anything, you can only help him find it within himself."

"I have never been impressed by the facts unless I have been impressed by the mind which has presented them."

"A man who thinks for himself is a dangerous man."

"He who has a heart for his work can have no too many difficulties."

"The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only one page."

"In every man there is a spark of divinity."

"The only thing constant in life is change."

"The best way to learn about life is to live it."

"The only real failure is not to be who you may have been."

"The greatest power is not in your hand but in your heart."

"The only true wisdom is in knowing you know nothing."

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."