



Jack Anderson :: The Young Reporter Transcript

Sherman Adams was Chief of Staff, was taking gifts, allegedly taking gifts from this Bernard Goldfine in return for favors before a regulatory commission...he was Eisenhower's Chief of Staff...and it was transparent. Vicuna coats and other favors. Vicuna coat's the one that got all the attention, but there were a lot of favors that were going to Sherman Adams...

He did the favors, and it was clear-cut, and I mean it was easy to understand. It resulted in an investigation that led Eisenhower to anguish over it; he said he refused to fire Sherman Adams, and he says, "I need him." And that's the status of it when the committee, the Congressional committee -Marion Shacklett was their chief investigator. Since all of this stuff was coming from me, Marion, when he was assigned to investigate Bernie Schwartz and Sherman Adams, came to me, which was a logical thing; I knew him anyhow. And so I gave him the information, told him how to go, to proceed, and he's basically following my lead. He then suggests that they probably, it would probably be a good idea to monitor Bernard Goldfine's room, hotel room, while he's in town. And I encouraged him to go ahead. I mean I had, as far as I was concerned it was a House investigator, and I was glad to have him do it. I mean, I probably should have said morally that's a reprehensible thing to do, but the truth is I encouraged him to go ahead.

And he did go ahead, and he didn't have any equipment, and I think, as I recall, I had the equipment for him. I think I borrowed it from Edward P. Morgan, head of former FBI. I think he had it. Anyhow, I can't remember whether I got the equipment or just picked it up. I really can't remember. But I did pick it up. And I brought the equipment to, it was just a recorder and a microphone, basically. And I knew nothing about the laws or any of that; it was all done by Shacklin. And Shacklin said as long as we don't trespass in their room, there's, having a microphone, a high-intensity microphone, is like listening at a keyhole. It's not a violation of the law. If it had been a violation of law, he wouldn't have done it. And he persuaded me that it was not. And he set up a regular vigil in the room next to Goldfine.

I would come in every now and then to see how it was going. One Sunday night...this private eye, who's working, who's trying to find out what's going on for Goldfine, is working for Goldfine, is at the door...Here's this private eye peeking in to see what's in there and sees the recording equipment, and calls a press conference. And they assemble outside our door and start pounding on the door. And both of us were dismayed. I was dismayed.

Poor Barron was dismayed. He said jokingly, looked down and he said, "It's only six stories," he says, or something like that. Well, we let them in... I took the position that I was a reporter. And I think I said if J. Edgar Hoover will invite me to one of his buggings, I'll go. I says "I'm invited to this bugging; as a reporter, I'll accept it. If J. Edgar Hoover will invite me to one of his buggings, I'll go to that one to." I remember making that statement.

But Drew made the classic statement. They went to him and said "Your associate, Jack Anderson, has been caught in the room," (laughing) and what Eisenhower had said about

Sherman Adams was that "he's indiscreet, but I need him." So Drew said, well, (laughing) they asked him his comment, he says "well Jack is indiscreet, but I need him."