KIRK STONE

March 9, 1983

what he when

"It's interesting the way you have to change your issue positions once you become a candidate for President. As Senator from Ohio he was only concerned about smokestack industries. As presidential candidate he has to be concerned about acid rain. He's had to change his issue positions on that one drastically. Acid rain is a big issue in New Hamphsire. He was up there attending some coffees, they pushed him on acid rain and he started making some inconsistent statements. The result was that we tore up his old acid rain statement and wrote a whole new one."

Glenn is not very sensitive to environmental issues. He hasn't said much on the subject at all. His daughter is getting involved in the campaign; she's going to go out and make speeches. So she came in one day and said If I'm going to make speeches, I'd better know what his positions are. Can you give me all the things he's said on the environment. I gave her the material. A couple of days later, she came back and said "Is this all there is?" I said 'Yes.' 'It isn't much,' she said. I said to her, 'Don't talk to me, talk to pop.'

"I like working for him. He's a nice man; and it's a joy to see someone who won't do just anything to become President. He doesn't need it the way some of the others do. He's not the least bit impressed with himself. The people around him want it worse than he does. But there's something missing. He doesn't hav e the fire in his belly. I honestly think he still can't decide to run. That's why they keep postponing his announcement--first it was right after the election, then the first of the year, now it's April or May. I'm not convinced yet that he really wants to run."

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Re Senate staff and campaign staff. "Some of the staff have had very unpleasant experiences when they went over to the campaign office to volunteer. The atmosphere there was brutal. It was all power grabbing, ego massaging, turf protecting. When one person volunteers, four people want to give them projects. They want to go out to dinner with the California State Chairman while we stay there licking envelopes. A lot of the Senate staff have had experiences over there."

"Sofar as I know this office has issued three press releases since the first of the year--one on El Salvador, one on Adelman and one on the mathscience bill. But those are the same three subjects he's always been interested in. He's said nothing about the 10% withholding on interest-the biggest issue in Congress in terms of volume of mail. Sometimes I don't think he's really interested in the economy. During all the publicity on EPA and Ann Burford, not a word from Glenn. No press release on the subject. I know he doesn't like to issue lots of press releases. I admire him for that. But these are very hot issues. He has to become identified with more than three issues--defense, foreign policy and research. The only issue he's strongly identified with is nuclear nonproliferation. Not too many people are going to vote on the basis of the future of the electric car. I tink patriotism is a strong part of his appeal. But he'll need more than that. I've worked for him for 10 months and I'm not sure I know what he stands for."

Says Glenn likes to take in written work and study it alone. Doesn't like to take in information by ear in a group.

He said he talks to women's groups and freeze groups and "His positions are correct, but he's not on the same wave length with them."

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He calls the campaign man "amateurish" and said the fund raiser quit because of that. They wanted to turn over solicitation of big money to "interns" - or, anyway, untrained people. Also their hedging on getting started hurt fund raising.

He says he thinks Glenn is in stage one of his campaign, is sense that everyone likes to see him and thinks of him as a hero. Each new place he goes, people welcome him--as hero. Pretty soon he'll have to give something back to them or the hero will wear pretty thin. Says John will have difficulty then, because he doesn't give much of himself to others and because he doesn't have much of an issue profile.

Campaign issues guy asks Kirk to produce men on "what has John Glenn done for human beings?" Kirk is flabbergasted. Turns out they mean hunger and poverty. So he asks why they want the memo. A friend of Kenny Rogers agent has told someone that if they'll tell him what JG has done for human beings, Rogers' agent says Rogers may sing a song favorable to John Glenn! Show biz/

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