John Glenn - Campaign Clips and Interviews  
November 17-18, 1986

The file begins in October 1985. R. had declared and was getting support from Republicans. It seems reasonable to expect (and Dale says this) that Glenn's identification with Democratic party grew with his presidential campaign. For that reason, he is likely not to get his 1980 margin of 1.6 million and 69%. He will lose Republican votes. K has more money than Betts, already!

10/29 - Kindness aide Peter Mengel says that K will be "front line" Senator—that Glenn has only 2 offices and 9 employees in Ohio, that K has 7 employees in his district and shows greater commitment to Ohio. That will be their pitch.

Day. D. News 10/22 - Ed praising Glenn and Metzenbaum for vote vs. Gramm-Rudman — it has become issue. (Glenn may see it as like the tax vote that bit him before.)


10/20 - Tom Price — Day. D. News reports on the Gramm-Rudman blast — says Glenn is in min. of min. on vote—with Metzenbaum and 2 Dems who are leaving (Eagl. & Hart). Only 12 Dems are vs. it. (Article title "Glenn, Metzenbaum Jumped On."

Glenn says "It's very very rigid and could literally wreck our economy as we go through swings of the economy. It doesn't ask the big corporations to pay a fair share. I don't like what it does to our national security."

10/28 - Randy Wynn — "Budget Bid is Ravaged" Youngstown Vindicator says Glenn has "balanced budget problem" with Gramm-Rudmann and says he
"needs another Senate vote on a modified version of Gramm-Rudman that would allow him to scramble to the politically safe side of the issue if he wants to." Sees K as able to use it vs. Glenn.

Wynn also writes about press get acquainted meeting K has with correspondents and didn't invite anyone from Plain Dealer, Columbus Dispatch, and Akron BJ!! Says K "stumbled badly when he wrongly accused Glenn of stationing only 3 staff members in Ohio. But worst for a publicity-hungry campaign, K aides did not invite reporters from three of Ohio's latest newspapers: PT (CD & ABJ."

Rest of Ohio Rep. Delegation endorses K saying he can "get things done for Ohio" K. Press Rel. 10/15.

10/2/85 - RR comes to Ohio, Cinn. and K travels with him.


2.7M in debts; 75,000 owed to gov't says FEC for overspending in Iowa and N.H.

K notes Glenn's fund raising troubles.

K. sees Glenn vulnerable on 2 issues - visibility and voting rec. - K "he does not have much visibility as a Senator. You just don't hear from JG. He has lower visibility than H. Metz. Mr. Glenn hasn't been an active senator for Ohio and hasn't exercised leadership, nor is he an active legislator."

K says JG is not a moderate - his voting record is "substantially similar to Metz."

Re Glenn's support, K says polls show "Most important thing about Gl's
profile is that he has broad support, but it's soft."

But says K "he's still recognized as a national hero; noone has really analyzed him as a politician. That will change as we get into the campaign."

He says he needs 3.5M to run.

10/4/85 - Keith White "Glenn Contest May Not be Much" Gannett News Service. He makes point that you might think Glenn's press defeat hurt - but no. "One might think that after a bruising and somewhat humiliating loss...G would be vulnerable to a challenge at home. After all, rejection is often the most fatal disease in politics" - But--Robert Taft, McGovern.

Glenn can't go further - but he has "popularity, money and middle of the road philosophy."

11/13/85 - H. Baker comes to K. fund raiser - Steve Meissner Col. Post Disp. - not one anti Glenn comment - refuses all invitations to do so - likes Glenn, just says Ohio will vote Republican.


11/12 - Paul Smith "Kindness on Campaign Trail in Effort to Unseat Glenn". Lima News.

K. "We see delegations working together for their state. (They) are doing things that aren't getting done in Ohio because neither of our Senators will provide the leadership." Another version of the Ohio thrust.


Baker calls race one of GOPs "best chances to capture a Dem. Sen."
Notes that K calls Glenn "a sideline Senator".
Also K compares Glenn's 80% roll call record in 1984 with his own 95% record. But no mention of pres. race.

11/24/85 - Col. Disp. - Glenn sponsored only two measures.


K says there are 9 staffers in Ohio now, but that only three were listed over the past 10 years. "Kindness said everywhere he goes, people seem unaware of any help Glenn's office has provided."

12/7 - Howard Wilkinson, "Bush Visit Set to Cincinnati" Cinn. Enquirer - some talk re K. money NRCC has pledged $750,000 and will give it after May 6 primary. Ron Boeckman, press aide (who does a lot of speaking for K) says that they originally hoped for 3.5 million but "Fund raising has been going better than we expected and we're thinking we're going to have 4-5 million to spend now."

Betts spent $500,000 and lost all but one county.

12/10/85 - David Gould "Kindness Campaign Right on Target" Darke County Daily Advocate - this comes from upbeat K speech to Republican Women's group.


This is an interview, essentially, with Arthur J. Finkelstein who is K's consultant.

He compares it to McIntyre - Humphrey race in NH, which was one of his. "They're saying the same things in Ohio that they said in NH in 1978."
Glenn's people would have you believe Glenn is not vulnerable, that he is too popular and has a broad base of support...(But) No one is prepared to run through a wall for JG in Ohio. No one feels he is indispensable. Sen. H. Metz. is controversial, but there are those who really like him. When you ask Ohioans about Glenn they say he was an astronaut. That was a fairly monumental achievement but it happened a quarter of a century ago."

The Metz. comparison sounds like Ashbrook some years ago. The weakness they see is the same, lack of intensity, but they can't exploit it.

Boekman: "While Kindness has been an effective legislator, JG has not. For example, in the last 5 years Glenn has proposed only two bills that have become law, one which recognized volunteer firemen and another praising Cincinnati's Pete Rose for beating Ty Cobb's base hit record."

Glenn office puts out 9 page detailed statement of Glenn's legislative accomplishments.

"A prominent GOP official" poses strategic problem for K. K won't have problem raising the first million. But, the problem is how do you spend that first million to show the kind of activity and potential you need to get that second million and beyond."

1/7/86 - Cleveland Plain Dealer AP story - "Glenn Kindness Race to Be Duel with Dollars."

Ron Boeckman - "We believe JG is going to hang himself in his presidential debt problem."

G has $250,000 at this point.

1/14/86 - Cleve. Mayor supports Kindness - George Voinovich - Joseph Rice "Voinovich Hits Glenn in Talk for Kindness" CPD. V: "The major thing
I want to underscore is TK will give us full time representation for Ohio" and K says he "will be a Senator for Ohio, not just a Senator from Ohio."

1/14/86 - "Glenn Aides Insist he Did Enact Laws" AP CPD - Dale Butland reports claim of 2 bills passed. Senate 175 letters to pol. writers and editorial page editors and news directors of TV stations. Butland letter lists 14 measures authored and enacted by Glenn in 2nd term. They include: GI educational assistance, prohibition on aid to India and Pakistan if they detonate nuclear devices and research program for new uses of farm and forest products.

The main thrust of Dale's letter was simply that the 2 bill charge is "simply false" - idea being built up by Glenn people that K just doesn't get facts straight.

Anyhow - Kindness fires off a reply 1/15/86 in a letter to Glenn. (I have it xeroxed.)

1/14/86 - William Harvey - "Glenn Aide Says Senate rival Twisting Truth" ABJ.

Comments on the back and forth.

Boekman says he's glad Glenn people are recognizing the key issue in campaign "lack of effectiveness".

There's some discussion of whether the legislation he passed was part of another bill.

Dale didn't list either the Ty Cobb or Fireman's Day but said JG passed two bills on their own - Center for Study of Afro-Amer. History and Culture at Wilberforce and research program for farm and forest products.

Dayton Daily News editorial 1/16 - "Kindness Having Hard Time Getting Facts Straight" indicates the key it's playing.
Also Dayton Journal Herald 1/17/86 - "Plenty of Substantive Issues for Kindness-Glenn Campaign" says "name recognition as the guy who stubbed his toe on the facts about Glenn doesn't look so appealing to us."

Speaks of "Glenn's fuzzy nice guy hero image".

1/19/86 - ABJ poll - William Hershey - "Survey Favors Glenn" 62-17.

Neutral observer says that "Glenn appears to have retained his high popularity with Ohioans despite his poor showing in the race for 1984"---


Also 1/22/86 - William Hershey ABJ "Glenn-Kindness Banter Warms Up".

1/28 - Neal Durbin "Kindness Reps. Glenn's performance" Youngstown Vindicator. Ohioans have "sent an astronaut to do a Senator's job" - JG has focused on "the big picture" and has "lost touch" with Ohio. Ties self to RR.

In February, the Challenger disaster occurs - Glenn is negotiating with banks, Kindness is trying to make hay over that and Glenn's character wipes everything off the front pages. He is the reassuring voice. The headlines this month are all about Glenn's bank trouble, some flap over Kindness fund raising, Geo. Bush stumps for K, Challenger, Glenn sits next to Bush on Platform at Time of Tragedy. Debt story - 1/31; on platform - 2/9.

ABJ - "Banks to Study Glenn's Loan Delay Request" 2/1.

ABJ 1/12 - "Bush Helps Ohio GOP Fill Coffers" W. Hershey 100,000 for TR but "Bush didn't even mention Glenn's name".

CPD - "Glenn Asks Four Banks for Extension on Debt" 1/31.

1/31 - CPD "Glenn Asks Banks to defer interest on Campaign Loans".
But I have articles re challenger reminding people of JG's character.

Totally negate.


Dayton DN - "Glenn Asks to postpone debt payments 1/31.

Dayton Journal Herald - "Glenn seeks to postpone campaign debt repayment".

2/12/86 - "Bush Rebutts Critics in Visit to Cleveland" CPD.

2/12 - Col. Disp. "Republicans About to Become Majority Party in US, Bush Says".

2/12 - "Bush Stumps Ohio: Cincinnati Stop a Boost for Kindness" - Howard Wilkinson.

Bush says "TK will be a hard working front line Senator, not just a Sen. from Ohio, but a Sen. for Ohio." the pat TK line.

2/28 Col. Disp. - "Glenn Could Face Inquiry over Debt".

2/12 DDN - "Bush Throws party line to Kindness".

2/12 Youngstown Vindicator - "Bush Blitzes Ohio on Behalf of GOP".


What is your overall opinion of Rep. TK? Excellent 1%; Good 3%; Fair 2%; Poor 1%; No op. 93%.

What is your overall opinion of Sen. JG? Excellent 9%; Good 45%; Fair 23%; Poor 6%; No op. 17%.

At end of April, K starts in on Glenn and debt--after the 60 second spot.

UH 5/17 - "Kindness asks Glenn to tell all about loans". DDN 5/16 -
"Glenn lets '84 debt ride; Kindness, aide 'shocked". CD 5/17 - "K Says Glenn Should disclose terms of Bank loans." CPD a5/18 - "Glenn's debt remains his Millstone". Brent Larkin - he goes all over the Pres. campaign mistakes. ABJ hershey - "FEC may Cut Glenn's Campaign Debt by $13."

5/14!!

CPD - "Glenn Misses Deadline to repay 2 million in loans for campaign"

5/16.

CD - Chris Burnett 5/16 - "Kindness may file protest concerning Glenn's debt".

Cinn. Enq. 5/16 - "Glenn to Banks: Hold On".

DEF 5/15 - "Glenn faces debt deadline, FEC Demand."

5/16 AP - "Kindness Still Irked about Debts of Glenn".

5/16 J. Her. - "Glenn Campaign Debt to go Unpaid this Year".

CPD "Glenn Can't Kill Campaign Debt with his fortune" (CPD headlines always have more bite--anti-JG bite--to them).

CPD 5/17 - "Glenn 'Snubbing his nose at banks' foe says".


Dover - Philadelphia Times Reporter 5/17 - "Kindness Doubts Legality of Loans".

I have collected a representative sample of these articles. But there is little doubt that it was the issue of the campaign in this period, May especially, April, too.

In June FEC finds against him; and the headlines get worse.

A sampling of the June headlines follows:

6/21 DJH - "Glenn Rejects Finding of possible violation".

6/22 Cin. Eng. - "Glenn Disputes Panel over Campaign Loan Debt".
6/21 CD - "Glenn Pledges to prove he otok loans in good faith".
6/24 - "Glenn Denies link to Warner" Revenna-Kent Record Courier.
6/22 Canton Repository - "FEC: Glenn loans violate election law."
6/22 - "Glenn says he didn't Violate Public Trust" ABJ.
6/21 Youngstown Vind. - "FEC finds Glenn's Bank Loans in Violation".
6/21 Ravenna and Kent Record Courier "Elections Unit: Glenn Broke Law".
6/24 - "K attacks Glenn's loans" - attacks re Warner. CPD.
"Glenn Blasts report that loans are probably illegal" 6/21 CPD.
Mansfield New Journal "Legality of Loans to Glenn Campaign Questioned"

6/18.
ABJ 6/18 - "Kindness Files FEC charges vs. Glenn".
DJH - "Kindness to file complaints with FEC about Glenn".
CDisp. - "Kindness Says Glenn Violating Election Laws".
Cinn. Eng. - "Kindness asks FEC to Probe Glenn Debt" 6/17
6/16 - "Kindness campaign to complain" Adam Condo - Cinn(?) Post.
CPD 6/14 - "K to file complaint vs. Glenn bank loans".
"Kindness Stumps County Fair" Medison Press London, Ohio 7/10 - K talks about JG as liberal "I guess most Ohioans haven't realized that during the time that JG's been in the U.S. Senate, he's been voting pretty much like the liberal wing of the Democratic party. His voting is very parallel to Ted K, How. M. and Alan Cranston, Gary Hart, but his image has been more moderate or conservative... He's a liberal." "There's no way to reconcile JG's voting record with his past image."
CPD 7/15 - "Kindness sees Gains in Race against Glenn". AP story - K says recognition is 60%. Bob Hughes - Cuyahoga County Republican Chairman says re Glenn - "People ask for his autograph. How many politicians get that kind of attention?"

In August, Kindness is still hammering away at the debt issue.

8/21 - "Kindness Slams Glenn on Debt". Dover Phil. TR.
8/21 - "Kindness Makes Issue of Glenn's outstanding debt" DJH.
8/22 - "Kindness Knocks Glenn on Campaign Debts" - AP story in CPD.

In Sept. articles have FEC filing suit vs. John.

Col. Dis. 9/11 - "Federal suit claims Glenn's '84 campaign loans illegal". 9/11.

9/11 CPD - "Glenn loans illegal, US charges".

9/12 Cinn. Post - "Election Panel Sues Sen. Glenn over bank loans".

9/11 ABJ - "FEC Sues Glenn, 4 Banks".

Editorials begin to appear which put the debt issue in perspective. K has not succeeded in setting the agenda. Polls show no change.

October does not hold out much hope.

The debate.

ABJ - "Little fire in TV Debate" 10/30.

CD - "Glenn-Kindness Clash on Almost everything". James Bradshaw - TR - "I'm fighting two John Glenn's in this race. One talks as if he is fiscally conservative, the other votes like Howard Metzenbaum".

DDN & JH 10/29 - "Glenn's campaign loans basis of debate attack". (a pre-debate article)

CPD 10/30 - "Kindness Takes Aim at Glenn's Old Debts".

DDN - an article on the senior citizen visit I went to.
10/7 Cin. Post - "Kindness Still Waiting for campaign to take off" Adam Condo - he contrasts early statement that they'd raise 5 million and fact that he raised 1.3 million. And Glenn still hasn't started his TV campaign.

Says K spent 415,000 in TV campaign in spring and, according to "a top ranking Republican in the state," "Their people blew money early and got no results. Now they're having a heck of a time raising any more money."

I get in on Nov. 18 and run into John. I congratulate him - and say something about campaign. He says it was "a frugal campaign, thanks to Mary Jane." Then he asks "Has he conceded yet. I don't think he has."

I mention idea of majority. "I was talking to Dave Pryor the other day and he said it's like a dog chasing a car. When the car stops, then what do you do? In one of our caucuses, when everyone was saying how important it was that we take over the Senate, I raised an eyebrow and said I thought the more important question was what would we do with it when we got it. I'm afraid if we aren't careful, we'll look like a bunch of idiots. I'm supporting Bob Byrd. I gave him my commitment a long time ago. But it makes me nervous when he makes statements like 'we're going to put a water bill on the President's desk as soon as we can.' We should be sitting down and figuring out what we want to do about making our economy competitive, for example. What do we do about ...(he goes through various issues - trade, dollar value, r & d, etc.) We should get all these things down and decide what we want to do about each of them."

That's a very typical Glenn comment - good government, not political.

Earlier clips:

7/22/85 - Bill Hershey "Glenn on War path to capture defense bucks for
Ohio.\textsuperscript{13} ABJ

2/29 Cin. P. Condo - "Ohio GOP not dismissing Kindness-Glenn Race".

Kindness says in April '85 that he's considering a race. It's called "uphill battle" here in July '85 and that term sticks to very end of the reporting of the campaign.

A Republican congressman's staffer says of K - "Tom Kindness hasn't exactly set Congress on fire. I don't consider him to be a heavy weight in the Ch. delegation".

5/6/84 - paper says JG "has made just two brief Ohio appearances since he quite the presidential race March 16."

Nov. 11, 1984 - ABJ - "Glenn Wants to Expand His Power" - Cox News Service - He wants waiver to let him sit on FR & AS. "Neither committee can operate in a vacuum without considering what the other committee does. Too often we (FR) go off making policy statements without considering what our military posture is in certain parts of the world. The AS Committee does the same thing. They're off voting for arms sales and weapons purchases without considering the policy implications of it."

Article says - "he could use his influence on the AS Committee to win pork barrel military projects for Ohio."

Col. Disp. 2/9/85 - "Glenn set to join armed services panel. JG gets and says "I regard this as a tremendous victory, not only for me but for the people of Ohio. As a member of the committee, I intend to do all I can to ensure that Ohio gets its fair share of defense dollars. That will mean more jobs, and that can't do anything but help Ohio."

Glenn's jokes mentioned several articles.

(1) "I really do thank you for coming tonight. I could say I'm
deeply indebted to you—but thanks to my presidential campaign I'm deeply indebted to almost everybody."

(2) "I understand that right after the NH primary, a group of Ohio bankers got together and said 'You know we really have to John Glenn a lot of credit. And unfortunately, they did.'

Glenn beat out Al Gore for AS seat.

The early 1985 stuff is dominated by JG's opposition to Meese, and Glenn's outrage when Weinberger's aide seemed to impugn patriotism of people who were in favor of defense cuts.

Kindness announces - Sept. 23, 1985 - press release. "John Glenn is a national hero—an honor well deserved for his work as one of our first astronauts a quarter of a century ago. However, that hero status has not translated into leadership or effectiveness for Ohio in the U.S. Senate. Since JG has been in the Senate, he has not been effective. He has not been a frontline Senator, but a sideline Senator." Used frontline-sideline contrast several times during his speech.

I talked to Dale Butland briefly and we went to lunch with Marty his press aide. (in whose office I sat the first day).

I talked about Glenn's reticence in talking about the campaign in May --triggered by my comments re. my apprehension in talking to Andrews. "He has only just begun, this September, to reflect at all on the campaign. He just hasn't been able to do it. When he conducts interviews, he just turns on the tape recorder and the same old story comes out. When Germond and Witcover were coming in to interview him about their book, I tried to convince him to open up a little to them. I said 'History is being written. They are talking to a lot of the others in the campaign and you
know damn well what they will say. You should tell your side.' But when they came in, he just turned on the same old tape recording. He couldn't do it."

Dale also talked about the campaign and the letter he sent to all the media people.

"I wanted to send that early so that, from the outset, his credibility would be undermined. There comes a time in every campaign where someone says something and there is not time to check sources. The press either believes you or it doesn't. It's a matter of credibility. When that time came I wanted his credibility to be suspect. I wanted to plant that seed early. I didn't care whether they ever used the stuff or not."