

The Washington Post

Cloudy with a silver lining

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washingtonpost.com • Paywall over my dead body

New book: Watergate key bust by fanboy

Moonlighting sports editor gets key collar

BY BOB WOODWARD AND CARL BERNSTEIN

The final Watergate secret can now be disclosed with the publication of Don Graham's tell-all, blockbuster memoir, "Linotype Operators I Have Known." Graham, a former D.C. police officer, reveals that he helped arrest the five burglars in the Democratic headquarters at the Watergate Office Building in the early morning hours of June 17, 1972. Graham concealed his role, which was crucial, for 41 years, fearing disclosure would discredit The Washington Post's investigation. In fact, he was the fourth man in the team that made the arrests.

At the time, Graham, age 27, was the Sports editor of The Post. He had previously served 18 months as a D.C. cop in 1969 and 1970. Nostalgic, fixated and even pathologically obsessed with police work, he wandered over to the police 2nd District that night and begged to ride around with the 2nd District Tactical Squadron casual clothes unit. Sgt. Paul Leeper and officers Carl Shoffler and John Barrett were used to Graham showing up. They reluctantly let him join them in Cruiser 172. Let Graham pick up the narrative:

"I just love police work, getting out and feeling the pulse of the real city. Couple that with an opportunity to get into casual clothes —well, I admit I am a sucker. As vividly as if it were yesterday, I remember pulling on a pair of khakis that I had worn at Harvard and bought from J. Press. You know the kind that have been washed so many times they are smooth as silk. I found an old pair of shoes from my St. Albans days. My shirt was the 1959 Christmas shirt from my sister Lally: short-sleeved, plaid, brown on beige. To be frank, this is the outfit I wish I could wear to the office.

"Leeper, Shoffler and Barrett were off duty, having completed the midnight shift. I was in the back right seat, and we were cruising on K Street — a smile on my face. This is the life. It was about 1:52 a.m. Suddenly over the radio we heard: 'Is there any TAC unit in the area? Suspicious activity at the Watergate Office Building.'

HISTORY CONTINUED ON A3

GRAHAM TO ZUCK: SHARE THIS, PUNK



Scion grabs Facebook, Amazon.com

BY KEVIN SULLIVAN AND MARY JORDAN

Donald E. Graham announced today that he will buy Amazon.com for \$50 billion in cash, capping a tumultuous day that began with Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg confessing in a tearful Google Hangout that "Facebook was all Don's idea and I can't live this lie anymore."

Zuckerberg, on his knees begging forgiveness and bawling like a spoiled toddler, immediately transferred all of his Facebook shares to Graham, making the jovial 68-year-old richer than France.

"Holy shit," said legendary Post editor Ben Bradlee. "What the hell is Facebook?"

After giving Zuckerberg a hug and a blankie, Graham announced a halt to the planned sale of The Washington Post Co. to Amazon owner Jeff Bezos. Instead, Graham said he would turn the tables, spending less than one percent of his new net worth to purchase "Amazon and everything else Jeff owns."

"I have more surprising news," Graham told a hastily called afternoon meeting of Washington Post employees, including Valerie Strauss, who demanded to know "everything, right now, Donnie-boy."

"Jeff's a visionary and a great friend of mine," Graham said. "But it turns out he's not getting his mitts on my newspaper."

Reached in Seattle, Bezos said he was "delighted for Don and the whole wonderful Washington Post family and, frankly, quite pleased to see that little Harvard twit Zuckerberg finally getting his comeuppance."

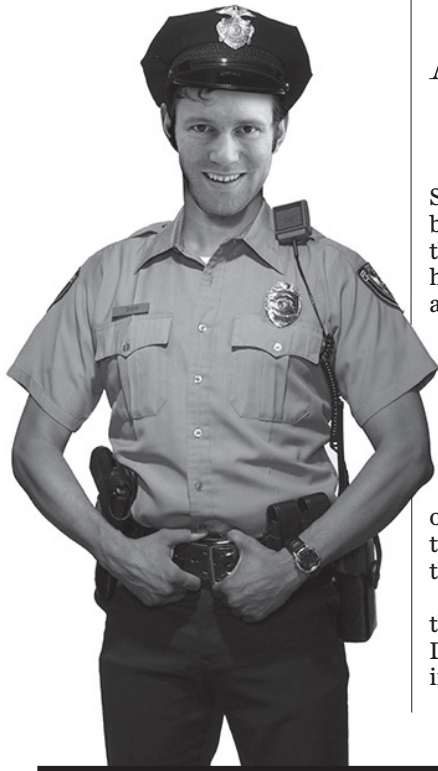
Bezos said he planned to pursue his "true passion" of a private spaceflight company "with a strong retail component and same-day delivery to every planet in our solar system."

Graham, in 900 individually handwritten notes to Post staffers, said he planned no changes in the Post leadership or the company's commitment to "the best damn journalism in the business."

"I can't wait to see what Katharine and Marty do with the barge-load of cash I'm about to dump on them," he said.

In a posting on his Facebook page, Graham said New York Times publisher Arthur Ochs Sulzberger Jr. approached him today about a possible takeover of the Times by the newly filthy rich Washington Post Co.

GRAHAM CONTINUED ON A3



At cubicle, someone to watch over me

BY ANNE HULL

Suddenly, your screen loses brightness. Must be the lights in this place. How anyone can work here is a labor violation. Look at the long-timers, their eyes webbed and aged with strain, like gophers crawling along.

Then your ingenious quick mind perceives another change. Not only has your screen lost glow but your entire desk and gym bag are also cast in shadow. That's when you sense the two enormous black objects on the floor beside your chair.

Small hunted desert animal that you are, you turn to look. It's Donald E. Graham. Just standing there.

My God, he's much taller up

close. Emphasis on "close." Does he break the bounds of personal space to intimidate, or is it the gopher vision?

Right about now, your ingenious quick mind remembers the computer screen. Skype. Your mother, demonstrating how to give a dog a heartworm pill.

So far he hasn't glanced at the screen. Maybe he's playing chicken to see who breaks first. *Not gonna do it, not gonna do it, damn it. You reach for the mouse.*

Now your screen is as black as the eyes staring at you. Everyone within a five-desk radius pretends to type busily, the rat-a-tat-tat of fakery.

For the first time he blinks, and you blink, and as he shifts his weight you notice the shoes

again. Black Mephistos with the built-in Air Jet circulation system. He's so rich and he's still wearing cop shoes!

He's about to speak. They wouldn't fire me right out in the open like this, would they? He wouldn't be the one to fire me; that would be my supervisor, who, come to think of it, has never been to my desk.

OK, he's talking. All around, the sham typing becomes softer. Time has never moved slower.

"You know," he says, gravely serious, his hand falling on your shoulder, "we are so lucky to have you."

Before you realize it, he's gone, continuing on his newsroom stroll while you try not to watch him walk away.

An ink-stained wretch in the publisher's suite

BY LEN DOWNIE

Snapshots from four decades of my relationship with Don Graham:

As a novice assistant city editor in 1970, I was assigned a novice reporter who had already been a soldier and a police officer and had done various odd jobs in The Washington Post Co. He turned out to be a good reporter, clearly loved the work and never expected special treatment because he was the publisher's son.

During part of the time I was Metro editor, Don was the Sports editor, which meant, among other things, that we competed for

slots and budget. For years, we disagreed over who got the best of some personnel trades we made. It was not until years later, when I was running the newsroom, that I realized what trouble Don had made for me by recommending George Solomon as his successor in Sports.

Although Don was well-informed about what we covered, he was adamant about leaving news coverage decisions to me, no matter how uncomfortable some of them might have been for him. After I decided, against what Don would have liked and over the objections of congressional

WRETCH CONTINUED ON A3

IN THE NEWS

Fed-Up residents Loudoun County voters overwhelmingly approved a ballot measure banning "hyper," "micro" or any other "local" media coverage in their area. **B1**

Cause found Scientists say global warming caused by "clean" diesel emissions of Mercedes-Benzes idling in St. Albans pickup area. **A8**

BUSINESS

Warren Buffett coughed once and sneezed twice at his annual investors' meeting in Omaha, Neb., earning a standing ovation from the gathered crowd. **A8**

An unidentified Washington, D.C., man paid \$250 million for vintage Mergenthaler machines at Sotheby's. He was the only bidder. **A12**

THE WORLD

London, Tokyo, Rome vie to host G4 Summit; Bladensburg still considered favorite to land event. **A8**

FASHION

Designers filled the runways of Milan and Paris with pillared V-neck pullovers, Thom McAn shoes and those ugly black glasses that some people rest on their noses. **C1**

SPORTS

Handicapper Andrew Beyer's Kentucky Derby pick in Post broke down on way into starting gate and was euthanized; Beyer hit Superfecta moments later. **D1**

Columnist Thomas Boswell writes that despite 102nd loss of season, Nats still looking good for making playoffs. **D1**

THE REGION

George Solomon was named president of the University of Maryland system and immediately sought an increase to the school's travel budget. **B3**

HEALTH

Men who dance beyond age 60 are five times more likely to outlive anyone playing quarterback for the Redskins, study found. **H1**

TRANSPORTATION

Metro train derailment strands 47 office workers, 12 school teachers, three homeless people and one media mogul. **B1**

CRIME

Altercation ensues when Jeff Bezos denied entry to Washington Post by security guard who can't believe owner doesn't know his name. **B1**

IRAQ

Former publisher Bo Jones continues the search for the Prince William County reporting slots he gave the newsroom in 1998. **A8**

PostPoints
IF YOU DON'T GET IT, YOU'RE NOT ALONE