



The Neal Asbury Show

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John Michael (JACK) Kelly, National Security Writer for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and a nationally syndicated columnist to Appear Febuary 20th On The Neal Asbury Show on WZAB-AM



Jack Kelly is National Security Writer for the Pittsburgh Post Gazette and a nationally syndicated columnist. A former Marine and Green Beret, he was a deputy assistant secretary of

the Air Force during the Reagan administration.

Born in Minneapolis, Minnesota on Sept. 9, 1947, and reared in rural Wisconsin, Mr. Kelly was graduated with a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin (Madison) in 1970.

Upon graduation, Mr. Kelly went to Vietnam as a correspondent for the Lavine Newspapers (Portage Daily Register and Chippewa Falls Herald-Telegrambr UPI's feature competition for that year.

Mr. Kelly entered the Marine Corps in November, 1970. He received an honorable discharge as a corporal in February, 1972, in order to run for Congress in the Second Congressional District of Wisconsin. Had he been elected, Mr. Kelly would have been the youngest Representative in history, but there was never any danger of that. The only portion of his district he carried was a community in which he had never campaigned.

With a fresh perspective on his suitability for elective politics, Mr. Kelly returned to journalism. He became a (very junior) member of the Washington bureau of the Dallas Times-Herald. Kelly was with the Times-Herald until

the summer of 1975, when he became press secretary to Sen. John Tower (R., Tex).

Kelly left Sen. Tower's staff in September, 1976, to become deputy press secretary for the Vice Presidential Campaign Unit of the President Ford Committee. That made him eminently eligible for other employment after the election in November.

After a brief stint as deputy press secretary for the Republican National Committee, Mr. Kelly, in April, 1977, joined the staff of Rep. Bill Armstrong (R, Colo), who was planning to run for the senate.

While working for Sen. Tower, Mr. Kelly had joined A Co., 2d Bn., 11th Special Forces Group, U.S. Army Reserve, so that he could jump out of airplanes. While working for Armstrong, he received a direct commission as a captain in the Marine Corps Reserve. He joined the 4th Civil Affairs Group, based at the Anacostia Naval Station in Washington, D.C.

Bill Armstrong was elected to the senate in November, 1978. Mr. Kelly became his legislative assistant for defense and foreign relations. He remained in that position until becoming a deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force in December, 1983.

Mr. Kelly's wife, Holly, died of a rare form of brain cancer in February, 1986. Feeling the need to do something more dangerous than he could in the Marine Corps Reserve, Mr. Kelly transferred back to Special Forces, and wound up commanding an A Team in the company in which he had served as an enlisted man. Mr. Kelly was called to active

duty as a public affairs officer during DESERT STORM, and ended his military reserve career as a major assigned to Army Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, N.C.

After several distressing child care experiences— Mr. Kelly's daughters, Courtney Lynne and Kendra Leigh, were aged seven and seven months when their mother died — he moved to Colorado in February, 1989, where he could be the nanny. In Colorado, Mr. Kelly worked in two election campaigns and ran his own business (into the ground) before becoming director of communications for the Center for the New West, a think tank based in Denver.

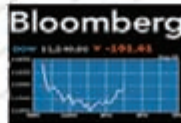
Mr. Kelly was working for the Center when, in September, 1995, he was hired as national affairs writer by the Toledo (Ohio) Blade. He began his column in May, 1998, and moved to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, The Blade's sister paper, in November, 1998. His column began to be syndicated nationally in 1999.

In January, 2000, Mr. Kelly married Pamela Winnick, a former attorney who was then a reporter for The Blade and later was a reporter for the Post-Gazette. The marriage brought Mr. Kelly a stepdaughter, Jane; a stepson, Greg; and stepdogs Molly and Wilbur.



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