

Through this, the greatest in his life of crises, Nixon lapsed into the irrational. These alpses were not interpreted and reported as irrational. The emperor is never naked. These were not mere lies, which became more characteristic during his Watergate than during his other crises, bigger lies even than those of his electioneering days. That these were ~~fix~~ falsehoods is not the point. They were utterly and completely unreasonable. If he meant them it meant he had departed his sense. Each is also a psychological self disclosure. Two of the many in one appearance only, his November 17, 1973 meeting with the Associated Press Managing Editors at their annual convention. Both of these dealt with the energy crisis for which he was responsible and to which he made such a large contribution with his personal wasting of scarce fuels in his unending and unnecessary travels.

His flying there, Nixon actually said, illustrated his personal devotion to saving fuel. The Secret Service wanted him to use two planes. But, brave man that he is, he would not use the backup plane. Of the one he was in nichevo, "If it goes down, it goes down."

(Get exact quote)

The backup plane does not rescue ~~any~~ passengers in any other plane. Nor would it be able to or needed for picking him up after an emergency landing.

If only one of those editors who control what goes into the newspapers had asked, Please explain that, Mr. President!"

How could he?

Should it not also be asked, how could they not ask?

When the question about the enegr energy crisis was asked, the beginning of his non-response was "You walked into one there." This total stranger, the man asking a reasonable question about a national emergency that gave every promise of growing more acute day by day, somehow became his adversary and Nixon, like a punchdrunk boxer boasting, chided his questioner and simultaneously labelled him and what he represented as an enemy, telling him, "You walked into one there."

How had he "walked into one?" As Nixon explained it, it is because Nixon was

"the first President" to send Congress an energy message!

A bigger lie is impossible to conceive except in a flat-world gathering.

But these editors, in not challenging him, pretended the world is flat.

There is no president who ever asked any legislation ~~anyway~~ dealing with any form of power who did not send an "energy message" to Congress. Most commonly - and very commonly, these dealt with water, coal and ~~oil~~ petroleum.

But Nixon has to tell himself and the world that he is great. Over and over again he is "first." In everything.

There is ~~azgkzgz~~ ~~zsz~~ an old joke with the tag line, Ask him; he'll tell you." With Nixon one doesn't have to ask. He tells anyway. There has never been a prominent public figure who so compulsively brags about himself in public and with so little basis. He is bravery personified. He is all-seeing. He doesn't need a backup plane in case his goes down. And the energy crisis is only because he was ignored when he sent the "first message" on it to Congress.

Neither of these claims is true. Neither is rational. Both are opposed to reality.

And the nation lived his fantasies with him, the Naked Emperor.