

add HJud Hrdgs and his attack on
Richardson as a liar, perjurer before
SenJud on Cox firing, which was
first aired night 11/15/73, while
Ford hearings were on in both
houses, all coinciding with Jaworski
appointment.

Life has been a series of attacks on something or other for Richard Nixon. He and those around him regard these as counterattacks, consistent with his and their pretense of not belief that someone is always out to get him. And, of course, that he is invariably innocent and the object of the attack evil. Nixon is never wrong. He says so himself. Members of his own party, when the Great Man finally condescended to see them for a few moments of talking down to them were incredulous when they left the White House. Except that he deigned to waste a few moments with them he was the same old unrepentant, injured-by-the-world "Nixon. The world was wrong, not he. The worst that had happened is that in the campaign there had been a few men who has been just a teensy-weensy bit "over-zealous." No more, no worse than that. No police state. No "enemies".

In extremity he remained true to the Chotinerian doctrine that dominated all his political life. Never answer, attack.

Nixon always had two readily-available enemies who were always at fault and whom he could always attack, the press and the Democrats. And, also typical of the man and his career, there was nothing too petty.

He faced a real crisis after he fired Special Prosecutor Cox, causing the greatest wave of written, telegraphed and telephoned protest in all of history. with all Americans have ever complained about.

In order to get rid of Cox Nixon had lost his Attorney General, Richardson, who was forced to resign. He fired Richardson's Deputy, Ruckelshaus when Ruckelshaus would not fire Cox. Even the political ultra, Bork, the only remaining Justice Department official confirmed by the Senate, who was then solicitor general, would have quit rather than fire Cox if he had not been persuaded the interest of the Department required the "continuity" of a confirmed executive. In the end, on Wednesday, November 14, federal court in Washington ruled the firing illegal. (In itself this can be argued as an impeachable offense.) By then Nixon was in another of his counterattacks. He felt he had another minor success in international affairs, Henry Kissinger's negotiations

in the Arab-Israeli conflict that led to a cessation of hostilities and the first Arab willingness to meet with the Israelis. Here again his "success" was in appearance rather than substance for the tremendously outnumbered, out-gunned, out-tanked and out-aircraftered Israelis had within a matter of days after the sneak attacks on them driven to within artillery range of Damascus on the Syrian north, were on the verge of entering Suez city inside Egypt on the southern front there and would have attacked Cairo itself had they so elected. The reality of this situation is like the city of Philadelphia, having been attacked by the cities of New York and Washington as part of a war against it by the entire United States, had repelled all attacks and were inside Newark on the north and could lob artillery shells into Washington on the south. The Arabs had no choice. Nixon got them off their own petard.

Here again Nixon, personally, bore a large share of responsibility for what had happened, including the acute fuel shortage aggravated by Arab curtailment of oil shipments. The Israelis knew of the preparations for the attack on them. Instead of anticipating it, as they had in the Six Day War of 1967, they elected to place their faith in Nixon and avoid the unfavorable public-relations consequences of a preventive attack. In doing nothing, in not halting the Arab attack, as Nixon could have, he was responsible for what followed. In doing a small part of it at the cost of an energy crisis was hardly a great success, but he hailed it as such and as usual, the timid media quoted him without question.

Until he had this to sieze upon, he remained self-beleaguered in his various hideouts, of which the White House, as always, was one. He was unavailable to almost everyone. His closest advisers could not get the see him. They got the hallowed word through General Haig. In this crisis all that saved him was fear of the consequences of doing anything about him. The "liberals" were anxious to get his vice-presidential nominee, Ford, of whom the best that could be said is that he was a nonentity, confirmed as vice president. They believed this would facilitate impeaching Nixon.

This and the failure, how which really means deliberate refusal, of the media to report what it knew about Ford, combined with the success he could claim in pretending

he had settled the entirely unsettled Arab-Israeli conflict, made another counter-attack possible. It took a strange and typically Nixonian form, beginning with delegations from his own party in the Congress who came and listened to his flatulence about The Watergate- again restricted entirely to the break-in, the most limited concept - and what, again incredible, he again got away with, still another promise to tell all after a year and a half, for all the world as though something had prevented telling all through all those months. The first delegation could not get a word in edgewise. They heard his speech. Reaction to that made him change a little only. And when he let those permitted these few moments in the august presence speak a few words, to his face Black Massachusetts Senator Edward Brooke, a former prosecutor, told him to his face to resign. It was not a good moment for Nixon. It was a dramatic moment as news is traditionally evaluated. It did not appear in the next day's Washington Post, whose lead on the story quoted his partsian Gurney in a way favorable to him.

This provided them background for his sudden emergence from the deepest Presidential hiding in modern history. No President had ever so isolated himself. He began with a surprise attendance upon a meeting of the Nevada State Society which, for reasons not at all clear, ordained his wife its Great Citizen-daughter. The cameras caught him in what was called the beginning of an embrace in which he appeared to grimace. Next he appeared at a 75th birthday party for Utah's ultra Senator Wallace Bennett, father of Robert/^{president} of the Mullen agency whose vice president Hunt had been. Then, on Thursday, November 15, a public appearance in a real sense, before the National Association of Realtors, announced just long enough in advance to permit TV coverage. The great wisdom he there imparted is that he would not quit, no more. And coinciding with this, the momentous announcement that he was going out to see the people, with three appearances in Tennessee Tennessee and Georgia.

What with this became obvious all over again went unreported. Nixon was afraid to expose himself to any representative group of Americans and from before the re-election had not, not once.

The realtors were virtually a captive audience. His racism in government and law

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~~next~~ is a policy to their liking. It made money for them. So whatever he said, they would have loved it and he was assured of applause on TV which would make the most unpopular President in history appear to be popular when broadcast coast-to-coast. And the southern audiences he selected for personal appearances were the only ones he dared face. They were lily-whites.

What was not put together is the fact that from before the re-election he had never dared cross the Mason-Dixon line, even in anonymity.

His first showing of face in public after the scandals was before a military audience in Newport News, for which, in the beginning of the fuel shortage, he had mobilized the fleet for a backdrop. With the return of the Vietnam prisoners, a certainty no matter who was president when our ^{open} intervention there ended, made him a hero to that audience. Then there was a surprise stop at a conservative Florida college en route to Key Biscayne.

Next, carefully contriving a fake assassination attempt that in November 1973 was still reported as the real thing, he flew to the Veterans of Foreign Wars convention in New Orleans, another conservative group that approved his military policies and another favorable backdrop. From then, August 20, 1973, he had remained hidden from the people except for a few TV appearances.

In short, during this long period of hiding himself, his only and rare personal appearances were before the most conservative audiences, the most carefully controlled conditions, each of the exceptionally few manufactured to make him appear to have the popularity he did not have. He selected the least populous part of the country, the least typical audiences, and he kept out of what in his paranoiac view was "enemy" territory, almost all of the United States.