

Hunt, Colson, Nixon and all the others at the Hunt-Colson mercy received a big help from the FBI. It might never be known - and it was not reported anywhere to my ~~know~~ w knowledge - had not that Oval Office conspiracy been forced to conspire, connive, fabricate and improvise in the common effort to keep Nixon unpeached and the whole gang out of jail.

To set the scene, it was April 17, 1973 and Dean was ~~admit~~ a cause of great worry. Nixon, Ehrlichman, Haldeman and Ziegler gathered at 12:35, just after noon, in a session that lasted until 2:20.

Figuratively, Nixon was pulling his hair over Dean connecting him with the final known payoff to Hunt some three weeks earlier. What to do? It was a criminal act and bribery an impeachable offense.

Haldeman joined in the woeing. He saw no solution. Then Ehrlichman to the rescue!

"Alright. I'll tell you how you might be able to handle that. The FBI has just served a subpoena on our WH police which asked that they produce the names of people cleared into the WH/EOB complex from ~~10:10~~ 12:01 AM June 18 [sic] - to 11 ~~PM~~ PM June 18, 1972." (The White House Transcripts, "Bantan, p.644)

The conniving and conspiring need not take our attention here. What should is that the FBI waited to the day nine months to serve the subpoena that should have been obvious to it the minute of the arrests.

And then for the wrong day. Or at least not enough days. The break-in was the 17th, not the 18th. Hunt went back to his EOB office before daylight on the 17th. He was there on the 19th, too, of course.

But why wait nine months to find out who had entered the White House complex immediately after the crime?

Why give all this time for the doctoring or the disappearing of records? For the concocting of cover stories? For the disappearances of files - and they did disappear. The head of the FBI, in fact, has burned some almost six months earlier.

Why wait this long for the packages Sheppard picked up to be destroyed or hidden?

Even to learn other elemental police information, who was in the buildings of whom questions could be asked to see if they saw others, if they had conversations, or observed objects being brought in or taken out?

With this kind of prosecution - which led to Nixon's and later Ford's nomination of "prosecutor" Earl Silbert to be United States Attorney for the District of Columbia"- and this kind of FBI "investigation" is it any wonder Richard Nixon remained so long unimpeached?