

Colson: Chairman Richard said it all- that Colson is capable of anything.

wish - had time to think this through before I get the a.m. paper. + have a hunch it is similar to what I suggested with Ehrlichman and the Lattin's plant, not going to God. He is not about to be GL's goat or sacrificial goat. I have a notion that much can be laid on him and that he has made a deal because his troubles would not end with dismissal of the Ellsberg case. - then it is his chance to turn Ehrlichman against GL because he has destroyed the Ehrlichman defense unless GL's withholdings are still relevant. I think it is possible Colson has made it irrelevant because there now is no possibility of a defense of the kind they projected and all they are entitled to is circumstantial evidence. They are now in the position (I without thought think) of needing what can impeach Colson, not prove a lie. I think he destroyed the whole Nixon posture on this and wish it ~~was~~ also have endangered Waldeman. I have some unpublished documents which come close to proving Colson also was not responsible for Hunt, and they were winning that on him. He could even have a deal with Hoffa, despite the firm's union clients. This man comes from Byzantium. But my initial impression is that he may be out to get GL. He has bought immunity on all other charges. And I think people can't remember all the dirty-works he supervised. If he testifies those ads signed with the names of the inconsulted and paid for with campaign funds were GL's idea, there could not be a Democrat who would not have to chose between retirement and voting for impeachment. Many examples. Best,

Insert Whys- guilty behavior?

detached

Once Nixon and the White House had ~~separated~~ it and him from The Watergate in the Media and public mind, as he and it did immediately with the baldest lies, his next two urgent needs were to withhold all, the evidence stashed in White House files he could and then to delay all actions of any nature, regardless of their cost. Had he and so many of his henchmen not been guilty these added criminal risks would not have been necessary. While at each step he portrayed each as a dedication to his principle, most commonly to the sanity and viability of the institution of the presidency and called "executive privilege," each in fact represented a retreat from the alleged principle and was in fact as in intent another stall, what in military warfare is called a delaying action.

Nor was any risk to <sup>to run,</sup> great, any cost too high to pay, in order to withhold, suppress and have time to destroy the abundant evidence of guilt and to delay retribution in the form of his own impeachment and the indicting and convicting and jailing of his closest and highest-ranking associates in the ~~the~~ nation's leadership ~~and their~~ for his and their lengthy catalogue of unprecedented crimes.

The most dangerous of the many moves and acts designed to accomplish these quint-essential needs was the firing of the first Special Prosecutor he had been compelled to accept under strong Congressional pressure, which included most of his own supporters. Harvard Law Professor Archibald, a former solicitor general of the United States, as Special Prosecutor, had subpoenaed a few of Nixon's tapes and some documents. At that stage Nixon did not dare a Supreme Court test. That was the beginning of his X-rating of the presidency, when as what he tried to get accepted as a "compromise" he offered transcripts he would make and authenticate and he would then let the conservative, ailing and respected Jo Senator John Stennis of Mississippi also listen to and authenticate.

As it later turned out, nobody ever agreed to what Nixon and the White House announced they had publicly. All White House dealings - and his palace guard kept anyone from seeing Nixon personally - with all officials were dishonest, the truth being absent from all promises, representations and commitments of any and all kinds. These high-level function-aries were as proficient at all the devious practises as his first assemblage of the

unprincipled to whom any dishonesty and any corruption become right and proper because it is calculated to achieve their ends which they regard as principled and necessary.

It was part Metternich, part Rasputin, part Borgia and all asp.

Everyone was deceived and abused. Sanctimonious lies guised as patriotism poured from the White House. The manipulations were like those of the fabled oriental potentates.

Nixon demanded what amounted to total abdication and acquittal without any investigation and availability of evidence in this deal in which he offered a few transcripts. He e required of Cox that Cox issue no more subpoenas, ask for no more evidence. Cox refused. Nixon then ordered his own former close associate, Elliott Richardson, who had headed the Departments of Health, Education and Welfare ~~to~~ and Defense before ~~being made~~ Attorney General when Richard Kleindienst's criminal conduct forced him out, to fire Cox. <sup>Nixon made him (insrt on K'd deal)</sup> A solemn commitment had been made to the Senate that the Special Prosecutor would be independent and unrestricted, so Richard refused and resigned. His Deputy, <sup>Willaim D. Ruckleshaus,</sup> also a long-time and high-level Nixon official, the Deputy Attorney General and automatically Acting Attorney General, resigned rather than fire Cox. In an act of bitter vindictiveness, Nixon fired him and hid the fact of his resignation. \_\_\_\_\_ Bork, solicitor general, the became Att a Acting Attorney General. <sup>Bork claimed</sup> He did fire Cox, ~~claiming~~ that if he had not, if he had been fired, as he would hev been had he not followed dictatorial orders from the general, Alexander Haig, who was then Nixon's chief executioner as chief of staff, the whole Department of Justice and the administration of justice would have come apart.

<sup>many and almost endless</sup> These ~~assorted~~ Byzantine conspiracies against justice and against the country took up the week that ended Saturday, October 20, 2 1973. The Cox firing came to be called "The Saturday Night Massacre." It caused a firestorm of resentment and protest, the strongest anti-Nixon reaction to that point. Nixon was forced to appoint another Special <sup>P</sup>rosecutor, whose right to independence again was supposedly assured.

But what was not reported, what the people were not given to understand, is that hurtful as was this tremendous anti-Nixon reaction to "The Saturday Night Massacre," it was a cost Nixon was willing to pay and had to pay in order to continue to suppress the White House's proofs of his and his associates guilt and to delay justice.

If he had not, action against him would have been hastened and inevitable. He had no choice. He had to stall.

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(But-out Nixon law corporation lawyer Leon Jaworski succeeded Cox. When Jaworski made a deal with Kleindienst for \$100,000 Kleindienst's felonies were forgotten and he entered a plea of guilty to no crime. The deal never came, three members of Jaworski's staff immediately resigned in protest. Kleindienst had prepared himself in Senate testimony to do the JFK murder and to let Nixon know about the crime and the immediate covering up by the FBI. The FBI of course would not do it. Nixon's release transcripts contain proofs of Kleindienst's further participation in obstruction of justice. It is typical of the Nixon administration that it is he who released the proof that made a perjurer of Kleindienst (his false swearing had been to prove protect Nixon.)

file "111" above)

(The best account of this remarkable White House conspiracy and its execution I have seen anywhere is Aaron Lechin's "Seven Days in October" in the New York Magazine of April 23, 1974, pp. 41-51. Not verbatim as it is, it fails to attribute and explain Nixon's motive as above - that this post-scandalous official conduct was then the minimum requirement of Nixon's survival.)

What is singularly missing in even Nixon's best-face-forward selection of his tapes and then his editing and changing of them is any sense of moral outrage or indignation. These were serious, deeply and genuinely subversive crimes against the form and substance of our society and our government. They were accused of complicity. And this gang sat there in the White House and calmly plotted how to lie about it, how to deceive and frustrate all investigations, how to fool all of the people all of the time, how to pretend they did not have the knowledge they discuss having and did have, how to get even with those who exposed ~~him~~ them - even how to hide from subpoenas!

The Nixon transcript of March 22, 1973, the day after Dean had reported on their criminal involvement. Nixon, Haldeman, Ehrlichman, Mitchell and Dean are present. Dean says, "They can subpoena us. There is no doubt about it... They can serve you at home somewhere. They can always find you."

To Haldeman this is the cause for a big joke: "We move to Camp David and hide! they can't get in there."

This is not the attitude nor are these the words of innocent men. They are guilty words in the manner of guilty men who know they are guilty and whose major concern, next to hiding their guilt is how much more of what they ~~will~~ have hidden will come out.

They were as they had been when so many of them were in advertising agencies. They discussed outright deception, misrepresentation and still new crimes with the equanimity they had once displayed to selling the public worthless nostrums. It was all a public relations game.

How to sell the guilty as innocent.