

Nixon Stalling; Press HW 5/30/74, refs, filed under Impeachment, WxPost 5/30/74, "Senate Whip Sees Impeachment Vote Only After Elections;" "Impeachment Unit Plans to Move On To Dairymen, ITT"

These stories, long overdue, relate to what I wrote as the chapter of a book two weeks ago and had in the draft of a book a year ago and have kept files on from the beginning of the WQ story.

My purpose is to record the responsibility of the press and the Congress for making this stalling possible. Had there been what obviously was called for, a systematic reporting by the press that each thing Nixon was doing had the purpose of stalling (among other, like diverting, etc) and had any Congress member day after day made a speech on it, they could have forestalled this successful Nixon strategy and what it has cost the country and will yet for God knows how long.

One of the purposes in stalling is precisely what Byrd mentions, the problem created by any consideration of impeachment at the end of a session that coincides with an off-year election and the coming of a new House.

What he does not say or is not reported is that if this happens there is an entirely new basis for more stalling, the legal testing of the right of the Senate as a continuing body to take up an impeachment voted by the previous Congress.

The Lauderback case is not an exact parallel as reported because apparent there was no legal testing of the right of the Senate to consider the impeachment voted by the previous Congress.

Similarly a responsibility of the press is the Office of Special Prosecutor saying right out that it would violate the Freedom of Information law.

Nobody would report it when Cox refused me court evidence that was published. Nobody would report it when DJ violated not on the law but its own regulations and didn't even respond to the appeal Cox directed me to make.

And now they take it. In fact, the Post downplays the story.

Note for future: anyone interested in what the major elements of the press refused to print or killed after stories were written should consult the separate files on each, including TV. They are in the main files, alphabetically.