

Didn't realize what I should have realized in talking to an English reporter today about the Gray release of his FBI WC stuff. I was explaining how the FBI always ~~used to~~ identify its course and that it had the sanction of law and regulation in this. What I didn't ask myself is why this exceptional deviation. What could possibly prompt Gray to make public what could identify FBI sources. One of the more obvious reasons is that he realizes his nomination is in trouble, maybe very deep trouble. Without much thought, I believe nothing else could prompt this. He did not give a paraphrase, from what has been reported. At this juncture it may mean more to Gray not to suffer the indignity of not being confirmed than not to be confirmed. In what he has done he has pulled the plug on the White House. Next question: With or without WH sanction? He fingered Dean. Question: Is Dean to go? He did not finger the Nazi-minded of German origin, Ehrlichman, Haldeman, etc. Still another question: Does the WH anticipate more trouble, more serious trouble than the Gray confirmation? This is growing into a very interesting situation. Wish I could get into it more. HE 3/6/73