For all the Nixonian hoopla, in no sense was Ellsberg a spy. His purpose was to tell the American people those secrets that were being kept from them, secrets that exposed corrupt and Ehonest government policies and decisions having to do with the ruinous warxim undeclared war in Sputheast Asia. To the bureaucracy and particularly to the paranoids of the Nixon administration and the military Ellsberg's second biggest crime was exposing them as liars in their own secret documents. When he was tried he was charged with stealing government property worth more than \$100. Nixon statements present for an incredible amount, with nothing too petty. He also had a \$36,000-a-year "special assistant" who was convicted of stealing two shirts - a common shoplifter although amking more than \$700 a week/ (Parade 12/15/74)