

The President then phoned Gray, ostensibly to express his appreciation for the FBI's successful effort to abort a Southwest Airlines skyjacking in San Francisco. As Gray later explained to Senator Lowell Weicker, he decided then "to take the bull by the horns." He told the President, "You should know that the men around you are using the CIA and the FBI for their own purposes." According to Gray, Nixon ignored him, replying in a non sequi-

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tur: "Oh, Pat, you just keep pursuing your investigation aggressively. You're doing a fine job, Pat. Keep it up."

Gray softened the story considerably, however, when he was questioned by the staff of the Ervin committee. He said he was merely "confused" about the White House involvement in the investigation. The difference in the two stories was not explained.

There was other dismaying evi-