

As Time reported in its May 20, 1974 issue, "of the approximately ~~1,800~~ 1,700 portions of conversations that the transcribers omitted as 'inaudible' or 'unintelligible', most were from statements by a single speaker - President Nixon." ^{***} ~~and at critical points, where~~ the missing words could be incriminating and the context indicates they were. Where these not really inaudible words were then leaked, they were of this character.

Time also reported in the same issue that "many legal experts, including former prosecutors, already see potential charges...of obstruction of justice, subornation of perjury, conspiracy and perhaps misprison of a felony and bribery," aside from what relates to other criminal matters like the ITT and dairy affairs and the sale of ambassadorships and other Plkumbers' crimes.

This is the opinion of experts based on Nixon's version of the tapes alone and without the added detailed factual knowledge all lacked because of the extent and complexity of the fact with which none could keep up and still do anything else and because of the missing fact, successfully hidden by Nixon and his associates and missed by the press and the official investigations. Or, as happened in some cases, deliberately hidden by them, as we shall see.

"An extraordinary number occur at crucial points in conversations; a remarkable total, perhaps two-thirds of the gaps, are in the President's conversation."