add as fnote on p.____

10/15/74

Ehr-IfTunes add from to infile

On Ostp. 15,1874, John Ehrlichman's defense statement at the opening of the secalled "obstruction of justice" trial was that he had been deceived and used as a patay ny Nixon and Haldeman. Commentators reported a "split" had been "in the air" in "recent days." In fact, any competent analyst should have anticipated the eventuality as seen as it was known that Ehrlichman had been kept in the dark about Nixon's bugging. He then had to knew, regardless of what he did or said publicly, that he could be a patsy. That this Ehrlichman signalled into defense publicly was in the draft of this beckmenths prior to the fact. The droft is unchanged to serve as still another illustration of the fact se dangorous to reprosentative society, that in times of crises and greatest danger to the political system the press fails to impart meaning to what it does report. It also does net report all it can and should. The combination did permit the steady growth of erosping American authoritarianism. It can be fatal to meaningful freedom. This unreported Ehrlichnan defense is also another illustration that Watergate reporting was largely leaks, not the result of journalistic digging. It is axiematic that leakers have their own interests to serve. In turn this means that the reporting was angled as these leaking to the press desired it to be, and that the real and full story of The Watergate was nover reported although it is the mest-reported of peacetime stories in history.