

8/6/ 72- The Watergate Caper- Would you be willing to consider a modification of the Martha theory in which Martha's resentments and protests were to her genuine, included, perhaps, some knowledge of such "dirty doings", and that when both problems presented them simultaneously and so very publicly, a combination of the two was conceived by the advertisers who have become so important in Nixonian politics?

I inclined to the view that Martha was p'ed off, if only at reduced attention to her after John quit being A.G.. I don't think she could successfully carry of an out-of-character caper in which she knew she was pulling a fast one.

So, if we begin with two things coinciding, John with his pants down and Martha wanting it that way, who was hurt by John picking up his pants and going away, or seeming to?

Matter of fact, I don't think it is hard to conceive that John was a liability to John's Other Wife, Richard, except for his mastery of dirtiness--and there just isn't enough of that to make the job full-time. Of a John monopoly in the field.

ITT could have had a very bad effect on the less than top-level \$\$\$bags and ITT was his baby, the buck stopping where it does.

Conceiving that the sharpies saw a chance to meld two liabilities into an asset is easier for me than accepting that Martha could be rigged into what she pulled and still pull it off. It is rather the opposite of having a high opinion of Martha as anything but a vacuous windbag overly impressed with her own importance when she had none save as a character. HW