

Today's WxPost has about 8 pages on WG, four editorial. I've read some, skimmed others and simply filed the rest, giving little or no attention to rehashes and recaps. There is, in this largest attention yet, a central theme that is anything but spelled out to the reader, protect the guilty Nixon because he is President, but with plenty of scapegoats. And Democrats, put country above party and be part of it (explicit in Evans-Novack column). Sure there was a coverup. Sure GL was responsible. He can make it all good by shunning his personal guilt and punishing those who are guilty because of him only. And except for an inference by Kraft, there is no suggestion that he had anything to do with the planning or concept. The net effect on the unsophisticated reader or the unthinking, which may well include most of the few sophisticated, will be to get them to believe that The National Interest requires the forgiving of GL for his human fault in now speaking out when his friends have done dirty things. All the detail about his friends is detached from the still central question, not asked, were they doing his bidding? It is already fit for the title The Villain As Hero. But his covering up alone is common crime, serious but very common criminal activity that is greater because he is the President. HW 4/29/73