

Having completed about 10,000 words of analysis of about 10 inches of government papers we obtained when I finally pushed my lawyer into discovery moves, I must now read, correct and summarize conclusions and steps to be taken and deliver all to lawyer in Baltimore in a.m. GL's speech tonight I must take in, as I felt I also had to with the 1 p.m. news. (That is when I clipped the enclosed extra copy of yesterday's Post. Apologies for not separating all clips, but no time and they'll carry better this way. Less damage. I take these extra couple of minutes for a brief comment on the Nixonian excessiveness of the firing of Dean and the suggestion that it means he has worked out whatever he will use to transfer as much responsibility as possible to him and his, which would seem to include Mitchell. It was Nixonian excessiveness to praise the finks whose culpability was already recorded. Or, they got the stuff on him, Dean doesn't, and he has reached an accomodation with them, regardless of what the future holds...Richardson was shifted to Defense because of what are considered to be considerable administrative and diplomatic skills and talents, hence I think this estimate accounts for selecting him to replace Kleindienst...With it clear that all of this was about to break, and following truly exceptional space to any story in the Post's treatment of this one, particularly in the past several days, I find the scant treatment today a deliberate underplay and wonder about the reason(s). Even the Colson story in itself is, I think, underplayed. I haven't read it so I may be wrong. I'm going on treatment-including play and space. Of course, there is always the day-off problem. The reporters may have been overtiming...Tonight will tell, but it is my belief that with all the major media having gone for the Nixon ploy and pretending even a monster President must be protected for the sanctity of the institution, he'll follow what the few who notice it will consider their lead...Helicopters, including one this minutes, have been shuttling. But, to the degree I am aware of them, this time he has less company of any kind. Less than usual traffic. Much less. I probably saw the one that carried the deathless message in, if one did this a.m...This could easily be the first President impeached if the obvious things were investigated and exposed by the press. His personal dishonesties and probably financial crookedness would inevitable and irrefutably emerge. But they won't, I believe, because the necessary will not be done. The protection of a single rotten egg seems to be more important than protecting society. HW 4/30/73