

Jim, in going over my WG notes I have found much that is of interest. They are 3/4/74 a good running commentary. They illustrate ~~me~~ not that I am some kind of genius but rather how easy it was to stay on top of pretty much everything despite all the efforts, including but not limited to official, to hide and deceive. It was a remarkably easy story to follow through the ~~gags~~ artificial fogs, easy to anticipate what was being done and how, and where I appeared to be uncertain, the elliptical suggestions are there and almost without exception turned out to be correct. Specifically and elliptically there is persistent criticism of the media and particularly of the Post, which had taken the lead. At first I seemed baffled by the seeming contradiction, but gradually I became convinced that the Post was being bribed by those who leaked to it and that it was in fact engaging in its own kind of news management. At some point I will introduce a new thought along these lines not yet firmly outlined in my own thinking. However, in this review I came to a short note of 1/31/73 on Bob Woodward's NPR appearance. He managed to defend and/or praise everyone, esp. the judge and the prosecution when he should have exposed both for what both did. His apparent payoff for the bribery is indicated in this short note. In looking back with all we have learned since, I believe that at that relatively early date this comment was accurate and that since then it has remained accurate, in wider application, both with sources and other elements of the press. Imagine his saying that the prosecution was inhibited by the indictment without saying they threw the indictment up! HW