

Dear Jim, with the printer delaying until at least tomorrow I decided on another short night of tackle a stack of Watergate accumulation ~~xxxx~~ until I have to get back to WW IV. As I was shaving I wondered if in tiredness and haste I had made clear that I enclose the rough draft of the affidavit not in the belief that its factual content will be new or interesting to you but only in the event you find the approach, then method, what I think of as intellectual judo, of interest....In going over this accumulated WG stuff I became aware of what I suppose I would have assumed if I'd stopped to think, perhaps had been aware of at the time and forgot. But is it clear that once Nixon was beyond saving everything, every word and force, combined to protect the guilty bureaucracy. Two fine examples are a Saffire column of 8/12 and Evans-Novak of 8/7/74. Once Nixon was done others had to be protected, those others who made Nixon's hanging on possible. He betrayed them. He deceived them. They have neither guilt nor responsibility save from trusting him, believing him. ~~It is not possible that~~ Without exception all knew better, as all the Congressional bitter-enders knew better. In going for this line the media is doing more than protecting those who in a sense bear a greater guilt and a heavier responsibility from prolonging the agony and magnifying its immediate and future cost. It is protecting itself, hiding its own guilt and responsibility/ its failures. Its being part of the same defense while pretending otherwise. Long live the king who never dies. HW 9/4/74

RW