

2/20/74

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I am very interested to know if you are still doing any work on the assassination of President Kennedy. I'm sure you know The Zapruder film is now out for public view. I have shown it to many people, and the news is really big. I have been doing work on the case myself since the summer of 1968, when it visited Dealey Plaza, on a trip to Texas. I had a debate today with the Dean on my campus (Dean Junior College), concerning the head reaction of President Kennedy, in the Zapruder film. I think I won, and he thinks he won. He won't believe anything until Nixon and the boys let it out, and they won't do that! IF you have been doing work on the case, and you still have materials for sale, let me know.

Thanks,

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#987

On November 22, 1963, President John F. Kennedy was killed in Dallas, Texas. We were told that he was killed by a frustrated loner, and that he was killed for no reason. But there was more to the events of that weekend in Dallas, and more to Lee Harvey Oswald. Why did two-thirds of the eye witnesses believe that the shots came from the front, when Oswald was allegedly positioned behind the motorcade? Why does the Zapruder home-movie, taken at the scene, reveal the President being blasted violently backwards? Was this not inconsistent with Oswald's location to the rear? Why did this frustrated loner, reputedly a leftist, have a history of involvements with the Central Intelligence Agency? Why are the eleven files compiled by the C.I.A. on Oswald prior to the assassination being withheld from the public until the year 2039? WHY?

Researchers have been asking these questions for years and have been uncovering answers. Hundreds of photographs taken at the scene of the assassination of John Kennedy have been acquired through the years since 1963. These photos, unseen by the Warren Commission, reveal incontrovertibly that the President was killed by a conspiracy and offer many hints as to who was responsible.

The John Kennedy Assassination, and other major political assassinations, is far more than a curious event of the past to be scrutinized by historians. John Kennedy was killed by a conspiracy and he was killed for a reason. Power changed hands that fateful day in Dallas. We have uncovered some strange links between figures involved in the assassination and the men arrested for the Watergate break-in. It is impossible to understand the course of American policy over the last decade until the motives behind the assassination are brought to light.

This incredible program includes hundreds of rare slides plus the suppressed Zapruder film, along with an in-depth verbal explanation of the research and discoveries made in the past ten years. The program is an hour and a half in length and is followed by a question and answer period.

This program is a must for anyone who now, because of recent Watergate revelations, is ready to view past historical events and question government explanation of their occurrence, causes and repercussions.

Exclusive representation



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51 Church Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116 617/482-3593

E. HOWARD HUNT WAS A C.I.A. AGENT IN 1963, ALSO. HE WAS IN MEXICO CITY THE SAME TIME LEE HARVEY OSWALD WAS THERE (SEPT. 1963)

CONSPIRATOR FRANK STURGIS (CIA agent) printed articles against Oswald.  
 WATERGATE (busted with twnt in Watergate).  
**The Storms and Struggles Resume**

For Richard Nixon, the lull in the Watergate tempest is over. This week Senator Sam Ervin's committee reopens its public hearings, and by next week the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington will rule on whether the President must surrender his secret Watergate tapes to a federal grand jury. In addition, more indictments are expected shortly in connection with both the Watergate break-in and the burglary at the office of the psychiatrist of Pentagon Papers Defendant Daniel Ellsberg. Said one presidential adviser: "It's like sitting here waiting for 24,000 volts. You know it's coming, but you don't know when."

The most immediate source of difficulty for Nixon is the courts. Two weeks ago, the appeals court recommended that the White House and Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox seek a settlement in their fight over nine tape recordings of presidential conversations about Watergate. Despite three meetings totaling eight hours last week, the lawyers could not reach an agreement. TIME has learned that Nixon was willing to give Cox fairly detailed transcripts of the tapes, apparently because the President expects that a court decision might go against him, but continued to refuse to let the special prosecutor listen to the tapes themselves.

At first Presidential Counsel J. Fred Buzhardt offered Cox only written summaries of the tapes. They would contain brief snatches of direct quotes, but for the most part be limited to compilations by White House staffers of the substance of the conversations. Cox refused and, in turn, offered to excise profanity and other irrelevant material from any tape he listened to and decided should be sent to the grand jury.

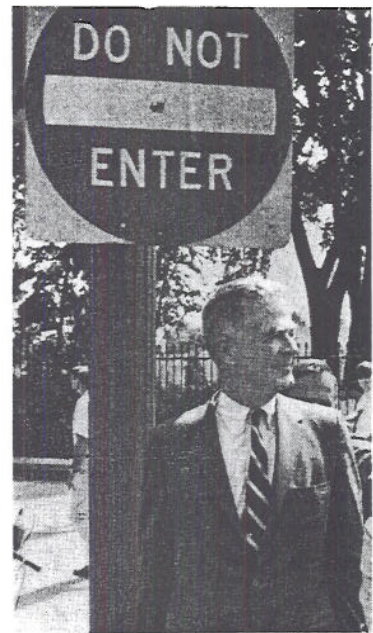
Next Buzhardt offered Cox transcripts with portions not relevant to the Watergate investigation deleted by the White House. Again Cox refused, insisting that he or, at the very least, someone not employed by the Chief Exec-

utive be permitted to double-check the transcripts against the tapes. Finally both sides told the court that no out-of-court settlement was possible.

That set the stage for a court ruling either this week or next. It is expected to be in Cox's favor, and to be appealed to the Supreme Court after it reconvenes Oct. 1. Since that court will not reach a decision before hearing oral arguments, Cox is considering taking the unusual step of asking Congress for a special act to extend the 18-month life of his grand jury. It is scheduled to expire Dec. 4, but he wants to keep it in session until after the tapes battle has ended and all Watergate indictments have been voted on.

**No Immunity.** In reopening its public hearings, the Senate Watergate committee will first take testimony from convicted Conspirator E. Howard Hunt Jr., followed during the week by Presidential Aide Patrick Buchanan, former White House Investigator John Caulfield and John J. Ragan, a bugging expert from Massapequa, N.Y. Caulfield testified for two days in May on his role in the offering of Executive clemency to Conspirator James McCord Jr. This week the committee planned to question both him and Ragan about the bugging, on orders from the White House, of Columnist Joseph Kraft's telephone in 1969. It intended to query Buchanan about his 1972 memos recommending infiltration of the presidential campaigns of Democratic Senator Edmund Muskie and others.

Originally the committee had planned to question former White House Special Counsel Charles Colson, who was implicated in Watergate by previous witnesses. But Colson may soon be indicted on charges of helping to plan the Ellsberg psychiatrist's break-in, and last week he declined to cooperate with the Ervin committee. During a two-hour private session with committee members and staffers, Colson's attorney,



SPECIAL PROSECUTOR COX  
 No settlement.

David Shapiro, explained that his client could testify only if granted immunity from prosecution.

After much discussion, the committee refused to grant him immunity—largely at the urging of its chief counsel, Sam Dash, who said that the 65-page opening statement Colson planned to deliver contained little new evidence. Then Dash began a series of questions to test Colson's determination not to answer. Did he know Hunt? Had he introduced Hunt to former Presidential Domestic Adviser John Ehrlichman? To every pertinent question, Colson cited the Fifth Amendment, refusing to answer on the ground that he might incriminate himself.

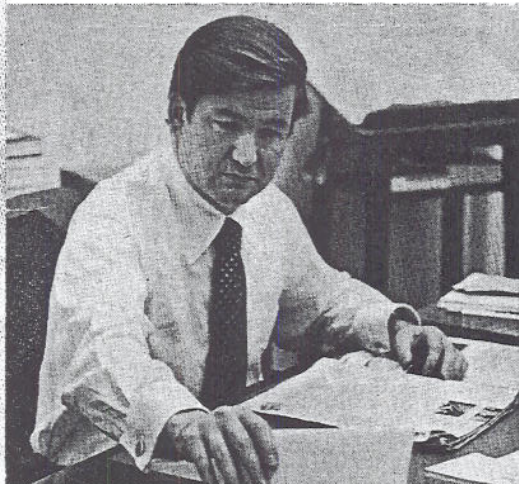
In the past, Colson has denied any prior knowledge of the Watergate break-in, let alone involvement in it. TIME has learned, however, that Hunt told the committee in a private interview that Colson was aware by December 1971 or January 1972 of the "large-scale intelligence plan." Moreover, Hunt told the committee that he had received the impression from Conspirator G. Gordon Liddy that—in the words of a committee digest of the interview—"Colson had discussed Gemstone [the wiretapping operation] with Liddy."

Since the committee wants to complete its hearings by Nov. 1, only four weeks are left to explore the other subjects of its investigation: campaign "dirty tricks" and improper financing of the 1972 presidential campaign. Several staff members resent the early deadline, saying that it does not leave enough time to explore fully the non-Watergate phases of the investigation. Some hope that the hearings may yet be extended beyond Nov. 1. Said one staffer who is involved in investigating dirty tricks: "It depends on what we turn up, and I think we are going to turn up some pretty important stuff."

Hunt is now in jail, searching a sentence.

NIXON AIDE PATRICK BUCHANAN

CONSPIRATOR E. HOWARD HUNT



DAVID HINE KENNEDY

SETH WOOD/MEP/SH

NOVEMBER 1, 1973

committee would report to its parent chamber, and then the House and Senate would take separate votes, the nominee needing at least 51% of the ballots in each case to be confirmed.

That seems simple enough, but the real question is what presidential nominee could get past both the House and Senate. The Democratic leaders would be willing to let Nixon name someone from his own party who reflected his thinking. But they are not yet ready to build a launching platform for a man likely to be a strong Republican presidential candidate himself in 1976—a man, say, like John Connally.

**Call to Arms.** To avoid a fight, Robert Strauss, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, said that he hoped that Nixon "would make a nonpresidential type of appointment," someone of elder-statesman status who would promise not to run in 1976. Indeed, the conjecture could be made—it was that kind of week—that Nixon would be wise to nominate a caretaker Vice President. If he named too strong a man, he might make it easier for Congress to impeach the President.

Some suggestions for "nonpresidential" Vice Presidents, discussed informally by Democrats: William P. Rogers, the recently resigned Secretary of State; John Sherman Cooper, former Senator from Kentucky; Gerald Ford, Republican leader in the House; and Barry Goldwater—who quickly said that he was not interested.

The strongest criticism of the arguments for installing a stopgap Vice President came from a politician who might have to face any major figure who was put in the job and then went on to run for the presidency. Yet he called for just that: a strong Nixon choice. Senator Kennedy, still the leader in the polls for the Democratic nomination in 1976 despite the lingering shadow of Chappaquiddick, declared: "We know the enormous burden the Vice President must bear if he accedes to the office of the President. The last thing the country needs is a caretaker Vice President, unable to enjoy the confidence of the country he may be called to lead."

As his week of ordeal drew to a close, Agnew was showing every sign of being determined to press rather than quit. Rebuffed by the White House and the Justice Department in his effort to strike a bargain, Agnew was planning to file suit this week to prevent the Government's grand jury from even hearing any evidence against him, on the constitutional ground that a Vice President is exempt from any phase of criminal proceedings until impeached.

This is the first step in what is likely to be a long and costly legal fight. To pay the bills, Agnew's office disclosed the formation of an "Agnew defense fund" that will collect contributions from friends and supporters. He might, of course, still resign suddenly, but it sounded like a call to arms from a man determined to fight.

TIME, OCTOBER 1973, IN THE 21 PAGE  
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# THE MOOD OF THE CAPITAL

Some oldtimers say that it hasn't been this way since World War II, when shadowy figures moved up and down the Washington avenues, when Presidents and Vice Presidents and generals and diplomats rolled up their collars and scurried off into the night for secret meetings, carrying confidential proposals.

Maybe the Bay of Pigs was another such time, or the Cuban missile crisis. But then all of these episodes dealt with the national security and military moves.

Now, instead, we have a political crisis that has produced something of the same mood, something of the same kind of clandestine ballet. Baltimore Prosecutor George Beall sneaks over to Washington to confer. Agnew has a late-afternoon meeting with Nixon. There is the offer of a deal by Agnew to his own Government's Justice Department. Cox flits in and out of meetings with Wright & Co.

If the White House had hired Madison Avenue counsel to devise a script to humiliate Agnew and raise rumors that he might not be wanted any more, they couldn't have done it better. First, give a "No comment" to rumors of resignation. Then take that back but refuse to express total confidence. Then go back to "No comment." If it was not ineptitude, it was totally diabolical.

Up in Port Chester, N.Y., old John Connally met with the Republican liberal fat cats out in Westchester, listening to Art Buchwald do a commentary on the King-Riggs tennis match. They too seemed to be waiting, licking their chops.

Hill committees have begun studies of how to deal with a vice-presidential vacancy and nomination. Former Agnew associates are roaring publicly against the White House.

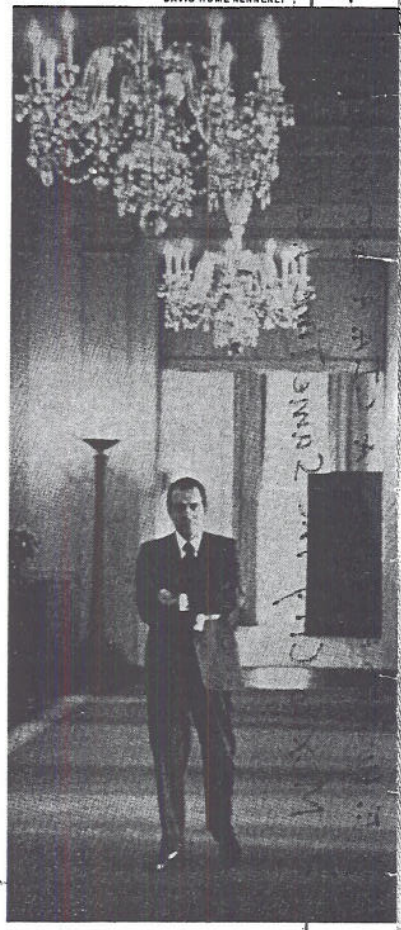
For a moment it doesn't seem like the United States of America, defender of the free world and strongest nation in the history of civilization. It becomes plain that Nixon can't go to Europe this fall as he wanted to. There are any number of reasons, but surely among them is the fact that his Government might come apart when he was gone. We have become something of a banana republic, with a weekly upheaval expected, anticipated and maybe even scheduled.

After a couple of weeks of renewed ceremonial prominence, it dawns on a lot of people that Richard Nixon is really not back to being President. Maybe he can't be. Maybe he is thinking and husbanding his energy for some new maneuver. But where is the President? Where is a clear voice, a firm decision on anything? Elliot Richardson is the steward of the big moral questions on Agnew and Watergate. Melvin Laird is promoting and pushing all the new contacts with the Congress, all the new laundry lists of legislation. And Henry Kissinger is the force in foreign policy, newly confirmed and already letting it be known he will go to work on the Arab-Israeli question. What we have now is not a presidency but a regency.

There is the feeling that events are crowding around the White House threshold and they will soon have to tumble out. The optimism of a few days ago that maybe Nixon had turned the corner and was starting out of his slump seems swept away now. There is Agnew looming large and the Watergate hearings resuming this week. There is the sense that maybe Nixon has not reached the end of his slide after all, that he is being swept along once again by events that cannot be foreseen or managed. There is Archie Cox and the vast court apparatus poised to spring. Who can calculate what Hunt or Liddy or Mitchell or Martha or Dean or Ehrlichman or Haldeman may say or do?

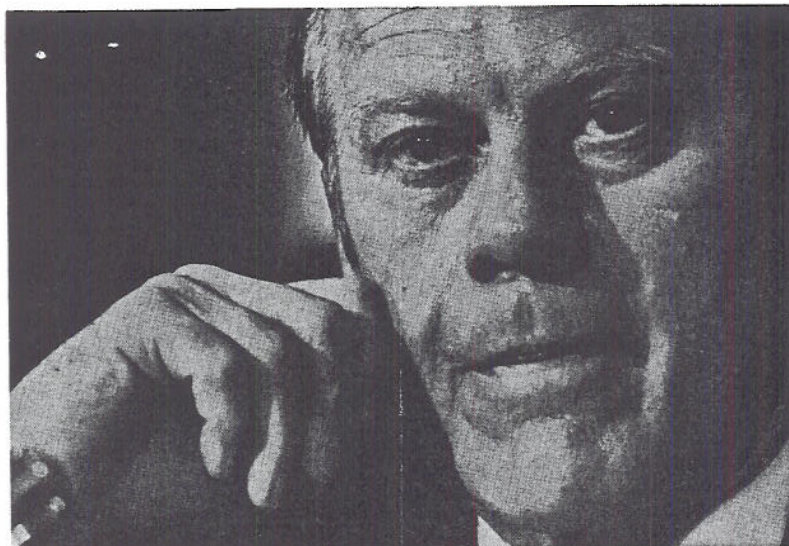
There are hints that people are far from being as turned off on Watergate as some suggest (although some must be), that they are beginning to realize more than ever the full dimensions of its profound and sinister threat to our system.

Richard Nixon's new crisis—and ours—may be growing again.



IN WHITE HOUSE LAST WEEK

(Vertical handwritten notes on the right margin)



VICE-PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE FORD AT SENATE HEARINGS ON HIS CONFIRMATION

*Thought this would amuse you!*

VICE PRESIDENCY

**A Rush to Judgment on Gerald Ford**