

Ed, what I earlier reported as my opinion, that the feds hit Agnew by accident when they were merely looking for Democrats is confirmed, according to tonight's CBS-TV evening news by Beall, in spades. He was fishing, although he doesn't say so. Instead he is quoted as saying he'd have been glad to get a groundskeeper or any low-level local Democrat (naturally, in the state in which he'd run for office, no?). I thought the first I'd heard was about 1/73, and from this report it may still have been. It has his beginning about 6/72. It could have taken until 1/73 for word to leak out. Instead of 6/72, maybe "spring". If I understood this correctly, they had hardly begun before they developed leads on and to Agnew, so they had these indications before the first word was out. Or, in the terms that interest me on Watergate, Nixon knew sometime in 1972, when he was in trouble. Meaning when he knew he could use Agnew to ease things on himself, to distract from himself, to reduce the chances of any Congressional action against him. To cool the whole thing by chilling it. The amount of this ward-heeler graft traced to Agnew is placed at about a half-million dollars. If they have traced that much, God knows how much there really was...And if my friends at the WxPost had listened to me when I said his career as a lawyer, his inheritance and his political career could not begin to sustain the style of his life, they'd have been way ahead, no? HW 10/13/73