

# A Red, White and Blue Reception

By Dorothy McCardle

Charles W. Colson, who is soon to leave as special counsel to the President and who acted as master of ceremonies, described it as a "representative group of the Great Majority" which re-elected the President.

Democrats, labor, police, numerous ethnic groups and supporters of George Wallace were among those represented.

President and Mrs. Nixon and their daughter, Julie Eisenhower, were a study in red, white and blue as they welcomed their 600 guests to a reception in the White House yesterday. The President was in a blue suit, Mrs. Nixon in a white wool dress and Julie in a bright red dress three inches above the knee.

Colson, who is credited with making up the guest lists for the receptions and dinners held for smaller groups of 60 each, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights.

Those smaller receptions had been with President and

Mrs. Nixon at the White House; the dinners following, across the street at Blair House. Key administration officials acted as dinner hosts.

Colson, whose name has been linked with the Watergate bugging incident, was asked how he decided who should be asked to a sit-down dinner and yesterday's big stand-up reception.

"Well, it depended on how much work they did," he said.

"Not on how much money they contributed?" he was pressed.

"Oh, no!" he exclaimed.

George Christian, from Austin, Tex., White House press secretary to former President Lyndon B. Johnson, was asked how he felt about having supported President Nixon this time around.

"The Democrats needed this," Christian replied.

"Are you still a Democrat?"

"I never left the Democratic Party," he said.

Asked his opinion on the

election of Robert Strauss, successor to Jean Westwood as chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Christian said "I'm delighted that Strauss was elected. He's a fellow who can talk to everybody. He'll have a big impact on the party."

Many of the guests at yesterday's party said they had not received their invitations until the day before. It worked a hardship on those living in Florida and California.

Mr. and Mrs. James Angleton of Miami were packing to leave on a group trip to the Bahamas when their White House telegram arrived Thursday. They changed plans instantly. Angleton served as vice chairman for Mr. Nixon in Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Green of San Francisco worked for Alabama's Gov. George Wallace until he was shot last spring, then switched to Mr. Nixon. Their invitation reached them at 5 p.m. Thursday and they reached Washington at 5 a.m. yester-

day. She wore a big Wallace medallion.

Gov. Wallace's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Alton Dauphin, had come from Montgomery, Ala. So had Wallace's speechwriter, Joseph Azbelle.

"Colson is really a very honest, fine man," Pignato said.

Louis Bottone of Philadelphia, president of the Teamsters' Union local there, took home some unique souvenirs after he told the President that he has 13 children.

Mr. Nixon summoned Colson, whispered in his ear, and Colson disappeared. Moments later he was back with 13 presidential pens for each of the Bottone children.

Carl Parsell, executive director of the Michigan Police Officers' Association, had a final accolade for the President.

"I just want to say how grateful the police are, Mr. President, for your stand on all the old-fashioned American virtues."



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