

Dean/Bittman/CREEP/Elbserg. My reading of the WxPost suburban-section "Dean Faces Hearing" story of 11/20/73 is that Bittman himself can be charged with improprieties to now attributed to Hunt only. These are of unspecified nature and I wonder if they can relate to blackmail only. This story, partly pied, also says that CREEP lawyers were themselves involved in improprieties involving Judge Byrne. I recall no previous allegation along this line. I also find myself wondering if this is the reason Cox asked Bittman to retire as Hunt's counsel. WxPost reported the fact, obscurely, without giving the reason that NYTimes did include in its also very small story. ...There is what seems to me to be an odd part to this. The accusations of withholding evidence are general, but unless it is for the period after he was Nixon's counsel, I believe he is immune. A lawyer is always an officer of the court, but if he were required to report all crime involving his client there could be no lawyer-client confidentiality or trust. He is obligated to defend and to be silent about his client's guilt, so how can he be charged for the period he was Nixon's counsel? Unless the story is wrong, something else must be. HW 11/22/73