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It is a tribute to their own treachery toward each other that they got caught. Do you remember the part of Dean's testimony where Dean, Haldeman and Ehrlichman are sitting around the White House trying to figure out how they can frame Mitchell and "smoke him out" into taking all the blame? Consider that they are in control of the cops, the FBI, the CIA, the Justice Department and at least one crucial judge, and they can't make the fix stick. Their mutual mistrust is so great they have to turn each other in and rat.