

Haldeman Urged Linking All Protests to McGovern

8/2/73

By DAVID E. ROSENBAUM

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1—R. H. Haldeman acknowledged today that he had suggested this year that the White House "tie all 1972 demonstrations to McGovern and thus to the Democrats."

Mr. Haldeman, the former White House chief of staff, confirmed in testimony before the Senate Watergate committee that he had proposed "to get our people to put out the story on the foreign or Communist money that was used in support of demonstrations against the President in 1972."

The proposal was contained in a memorandum, dated last Feb. 10, from Mr. Haldeman to John W. Dean 3d, then the White House counsel.

The purpose of putting forth his version of the demonstrations, Mr. Haldeman said, was to counter Democratic attacks

on the Administration on Watergate issues.

Tomorrow, the committee will begin an inquiry into whether the Central Intelligence Agency was asked to block a Watergate investigation. Richard Helms, former Director of Central Intelligence; Robert E. Cushman Jr., former deputy director of C.I.A., and Vernon A. Walters, the present deputy director, are scheduled as witnesses.

Senator Ervin said that the committee would not meet

Excerpts from the testimony are on Pages 20 and 21.

Saturday but would continue its hearings into next week.

In his other testimony today, Mr. Haldeman disclosed that he had taken additional recordings of President Nixon's private conversations home with him early last month.

Ordered Schorr Investigated

He also acknowledged that he had ordered a 1971 investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation of Daniel Schorr, a Washington correspondent for the Columbia Broadcasting System, but he said that he could not recall ordering a 24-hour surveillance of Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat, of Massachusetts.

Furthermore, Mr. Haldeman said the list of White House "enemies" given to the committee in June by Mr. Dean was prepared solely to keep foes of the Nixon Administration from receiving such courtesies as invitations to White House dinners.

In his opening statement to the committee on Monday, Mr. Haldeman declared that he had listened to recordings of two of

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Mr. Nixon's conversations with Mr. Dean—the one on Sept. 15, 1972, and the one on March 21, 1973. He took the tape of the September meeting to his Maryland home, he said.

Yesterday, he disclosed that he had taken other tapes to his home, but he did not say how many. He also said that he had kept the tape of the September meeting for two days, leaving it in a closet when he was not at home.

Today, Mr. Haldeman supplied even more details about the recordings. He said that he had taken tapes of three other days of meetings home, along with separate recordings of the President's telephone calls on those dates.

He said he could not recall the dates of the other tapes, although he believed they were between February and April of this year.

He decided not to listen to these other tapes, Mr. Haldeman said, because he had not been present at the meetings, as he had on Sept. 15 and March 21.

Difficulties Cited

Asked why he had taken the tapes home, Mr. Haldeman replied that it would have been "difficult and awkward" to listen to them in the "open suite" in the Executive Office Building that he was allowed to use as an office while he was preparing for his Watergate testimony.

Mr. Haldeman resigned from the President's staff April 30 and gave up his White House office a few days after that.

He repeated that he could not recall whether he or Mr. Nixon first suggested that he listen to the recordings, which have become the subject of a court battle between the President, on one hand, and the committee prosecutor, Archibald Cox, on the other.

Mr. Haldeman did say, however, that he had discussed the tapes with Alexander M. Haig, his successor as White House chief of staff, or J. Fred Buzhardt, special counsel to the President on Watergate matters, or Stephen B. Bull, an assistant to Mr. Haig. He could not remember, however, which of them he talked with, he said.

Conversations in Dispute

Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr., the Committee chairman, has said that the recordings would provide the "best evidence" of what was said at meetings involving Mr. Nixon and Mr. Dean.

Mr. Dean testified last June that at the Sept. 15 meeting it was clear to him that Mr. Nixon was aware of the Watergate cover-up. At the March 21

meeting, Mr. Dean swore, he told the President the entire story of the burglary and the cover-up.

Mr. Nixon has said, however, that he knew no details of the Watergate scandal until March 21 and that he still did not have the full picture then.

In discussing the Sept. 15 conversation, Mr. Haldeman

said that he did not recall Mr. Dean's having used the word, "contain," to describe how the Watergate investigation had been stopped short of high levels in the White House or Mr. Nixon's re-election committee. Mr. Dean swore that he had used that word.

'Cancer' Warning Recalled

Mr. Haldeman also said that Mr. Dean told Mr. Nixon that he was compiling an "enemies" list and that Mr. Nixon voiced his approval. Mr. Dean testified that the President had ordered him at that meeting to start collecting a list of White House foes.

In answer to a question from the committee's chief counsel, Samuel Dash, Mr. Haldeman said that he did remember Mr. Dean's having informed Mr. Nixon on March 21 that Watergate was a "cancer growing on the Presidency."

Mr. Haldeman concluded his testimony, which began Monday afternoon, with a brief statement that his years in the White House had been the "high point" in his life.

It was important that the truth about the Watergate scandal came out, he declared, so that the public could know "where the failure wasn't."

"That failure wasn't on the part of the vast majority of the fine men and women who have served and are serving President Nixon in his attempt to lead this country," he said.

Under sharp questioning from Senator Lowell P. Weicker Jr., Republican of Connecticut, Mr. Haldeman insisted that there was evidence to support his contention that the campaign staff of Senator George McGovern, the Democratic Presidential candidate, and the Communist party were financing demonstrations against Mr. Nixon during the 1972 campaign.

Mr. Haldeman said that he hoped to provide the committee with the evidence but that he was unable to do so today.

Senator Weiker has repeatedly added drama to the hearings in recent weeks, citing what he perceives to be the political immorality of the Nixon Administration.

Today, saying that he was "emotionally wrought up" over

the Haldeman memorandum, he told the witness: "This type of business here, when it emanates from the counsels in the land, I think is a disgrace."

Senator Weicker also produced another memorandum — this one from the Nixon campaign's chief advance man to Mr. Haldeman — on which Mr. Haldeman had scribbled in his broad handwriting "good" and "great" in the margin next to suggestions that Mr. Nixon and the Rev. Billy Graham be confronted with violent demonstrations and obscene signs during a Presidential trip to Charlotte, N.C., in 1971.

Both of the memorandums on which Mr. Weicker questioned Mr. Haldeman had been given the committee, under subpoena, by Mr. Dean.

Mr. Weicker declared that the one from the advance man, Ronald H. Walker, indicated that the Nixon campaign welcomed rowdy demonstrations against the President as a way to present Mr. Nixon as an underdog.

But Mr. Haldeman said that the opposite was true. He was pleased that demonstrations were planned, he said, because they would show the public that such demonstrations were not spontaneous.

HALDEMAN MEMO

Following is the memorandum from Mr. Haldeman to Mr. Dean:

We need to get our people to put out the story on the foreign or Communist money that was used in support of demonstrations against the President in 1972. We should tie all 1972 demonstrations to [Senator George] McGovern and thus to the Democrats as part of the peace movement.

The investigation should be brought to include the peace movement which lead directly to McGovern and Teddy Kennedy. This is a good counter-offensive to be developed. In this connection we need to itemize all the disruptions such as the Century Plaza, San Francisco, Statue of Liberty, and so on.

You should definitely order [L. Patrick] Gray to go ahead on the F.B.I. investigation against those who tapped Nixon and Agnew in 1968.

We need to develop the plan on to what extent the Democrats were responsible for the demonstrations that led to violence or disruption.

There's also the question of whether we should let out the Fort Wayne story, now — that we ran a clean campaign compared to theirs of libel and slander such as against [C. G.] Rebozo, etc.

5:30 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. H. R. HALDEMAN

FROM: RONALD H. WALKER

RE: CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA -
DEMONSTRATIONS

*to be taken
High School*

Good

Good

1. The most recent intelligence that has been received from the Advanceman Bill Henkel and the USSS is that we will have demonstrators in Charlotte tomorrow. The number is running between 100 and 200; the Advanceman's gut reaction is between 150 and 200. They will be violent; they will have extremely obscene signs, as has been indicated by their handbills. It will not only be directed toward the President, but also toward Billy Graham. They will have smoke bombs, and have every intention of disrupting the arrival and trying to blitz the Coliseum in order to disrupt the dedication ceremony.

2. According to Henkel and the USSS, and it is also indicated on the handbills being distributed by the demonstrators, the Charlotte police department is extremely tough and will probably use force to prevent any possible disruption of the motorcade or the President's movements.

Associated Press

Part of a memorandum that was received by H. R. Haldeman while he was assistant to President Nixon. Senator Lowell P. Weicker Jr., Republican of Connecticut, questioned Mr. Haldeman about underlinings and marginal comments in Haldeman handwriting.

We could let Evans and Novak put it out and then be asked about it to make the point that we knew and the President said it was not to be used under [sic] circumstances. In any event, we have to play a very hard game on this whole thing and get our investigations going as a counter move.



The New York Times/George Tames

Samuel Dash, center, chief counsel to the Watergate committee, confers with Senator Lowell P. Weicker Jr., whose legislative aide, A. Searle Field, is at left.