

Hanging Tough at Storm King [Secret Service code name for
San Clemente]

At San Clemente, the heavy surf pounding below Richard Nixon's cliff-top redoubt was shrouded by the early morning fog last week, and inside his secluded den the President was perhaps more solitary than ever before. With a swivel of his big chair, he could have seen for himself what his former aide, John Dean, was saying before the Senate Watergate committee. But the television screen remained blank.

Nixon sent word through White House Spokesman Gerald Warren that he had not watched Dean at all - either in the live hearings or in snatches on the network news programs. ** There is, of course, no way to be certain of this fact, reported TIME Correspondent Bonnie Angelo, since the President was alone every morning in the den (elegantly furnished at Government expense), and did not drive over to the adjoining presidential office in the Western White House compound until 9:30 or 10.* But the story rings true; it is hard to imagine Richard Nixon listening to himself under attack.

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*Live coverage of hearings, morning session, ended at 9 or 9:30 Pacific daylight time.

**See Nicholas von Hoffman, WXPPost 27 Jun 73, filed W/gate.