

15 Apr 73 ①

Hunt and Liddy implicated, in burglary of offices of Ellsberg's psychiatrist, in memo dated 15th Apr from Silbert to Petersen. (See Chronology 27 Apr, Byrne.)

SFC 28 Apr 73

Kleindienst, in meeting 1 to 5 a.m. with Petersen, Titus, Silbert, shocked to learn "for the first time" of possible criminal conduct of men with whom he had close personal and professional relationships.

SFC [WXP] 3 May 73; Dean, W/gate comm., NYT 26 Jun 73, p. 35

Nixon in unannounced meeting confers with Kleindienst and Petersen, who tell him new data implicates H&E. *

NYTimes 18 Apr 73; WXP 1 Jun, Alsop

Nixon "angered and distressed" by new evidence presented by Petersen, who urges him to suspend H&E immediately. ** "One source" ("close to the case?"), asked about the two week delay in the removal of H&E, says Nixon "developed a very active policy of playing one White House aide off against another. He was creating an environment in which the prosecution could carry out its investigation," and that Nixon used the period between 15 and 30 Apr "very wisely to help the government develop evidence."

SFC [NYT] 23 Jun 73

*The three original prosecutors had learned of H&E's involvement from Dean; later developed supporting testimony from Magruder.
- NYT 23 Jun 73, Hersh

**Evans and Novak: "President Nixon's immediate response to a warning that his chief aide, H.R. Haldeman, might be criminally prosecuted and should be fired was to give him one of the critically important White House Watergate tapes." (See entry 31 Jul 73 on tape of meeting of 21 Mar 73, and - if it has not been retyped and incorporated in that entry - Note 1B.)

WXP 13 Aug 73, Evans and Novak

"Checkers speech" - See 30 Apr 73, AMP-A.

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Ehrlichman memo [on discussion with Colson and others 15 Apr] "[contain] a strong suggestion that concern over the Federal grand jury testimony of E. Howard Hunt Jr., ... had prompted Mr. Nixon's April 17 announcement of 'serious' new charges in the Watergate case. Mr. Ehrlichman confirmed to a reporter that his notes [on this meeting] reflected a recommendation by Mr. Colson that Mr. Nixon should publicly disclose 'damaging evidence' so that a pending grand jury appearance by Hunt would be an 'anti-climax'."

NYT 28 Jul 73, Kneeland; Naughton

Gray receives "short, terse" phone call from Ehrlichman, about 15 seconds long, to inform him that Dean had been talking to the prosecutors. This call was at about 10.30 p.m. and was followed by another, equally short, at 11 p.m.; the second reported that Dean had told the prosecutors about having turned the Hunt papers over to Gray. (For contradictions in Ehrlichman and Gray versions, see story by Lawrence Meyer, WXP 4 Aug 73; suggestions can be read into it that Gray was being put on record to take the full blame for destroying Hunt files.) Gray: "I realize that the conversations may have been recorded without my knowledge," and that Ehrlichman seemed "tense."

According to Haldeman, in deposition in Democrats' civil suit taken 22 to 24 May, these calls by Ehrlichman were made from Nixon's office; Nixon and Haldeman also were present.

WXP 4 Aug 73, p. 11 - Gray's opening statement to Ervin committee

p. 13 - article by Lawrence Meyer

NYT 8 Jun 73, p. 18, col. 8 - Haldeman deposition in Democrats' civil suit

Haldeman (26 Apr): "Up until April 15, I assumed [Gray] still had [Hunt's files]."

SFC 27 Apr 73

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Nixon-Dean meeting - EOB, 9:17 to 10:12 p.m. Tape of this meeting is among the nine requested by Cox. *

See listing of these tapes, filed separately as memo.

See story on this tape, and dictabelt* of Nixon recollections of this meeting - SFEx 18 Nov 73, James McCartney.

See entry 11 Jun, on Cox request for tape of this meeting.

*From abbreviated summary of what is believed to be the contents of subpoenaed tapes: "April 15, 1973 - The controversial meeting between [Nixon] and Dean, in which [Nixon] said he had been 'joking' on March 13 when he made the remark about \$1 million payoffs to the defendants. 'If true and accurate, this [Dean] testimony would indicate an important dimension to the voer-up conspiracy,' Cox said. 'If false and misleading, a perjurious injustice has been done for which the grand jury can return ~~and~~ an indictment.' The White House said this conversation never was taped because of malfunctioning equipment. Although the President previously had told the Justice Department that he had a Dictabelt recording of his own recollections of the meeting, the White House on Nov. 12 said it cannot find the Dictabelt."

WXP 24 Nov 73

** See entry 2 Nov 73, and AMP-D same date.

" " 12 Nov 73, Missing tapes.

" " 18 Nov 73, Tapes.

15 Apr 73 (K)

Nixon "grand tour" of Europe - Nixon tells newsmen he is planning to make a "grand tour" of Europe in the autumn. At a news conference 15 Mar 73 he had said he was considering such a trip this summer or late spring; NYT says this earlier trip had "reportedly [been] planned to dramatize his intention to make 1973 'The Year of Europe.'" But according to Administration officials, the President changed his mind about an early visit to Europe as a result of the strong criticism from many European capitals of the American bombing of Hanoi last December. Mr. Nixon - according to aides - was angered at what he regarded as a lack of understanding by his allies and decided to let considerable time elapse before going to Europe."

NYT 16 Apr 73, Bernard Gwertzman, filed Nix Ad

- See entry 22⁷³₇₃, Nixon "grand tour."