

12
~~12~~ Jul 73 (1)

Witness: John Mitchell (3)
Richard Moore

Rothblatt says four of the original defendants accepted offers of money and executive clemency in return for guilty pleas, offered in a "package deal" by Hunt. Tells this to Cox's office after ~~waiver of attorney-client privilege~~ clients waived attorney-client privilege.

~~SFC 13 Jul~~ [NYT] 13 Jul 73 4 May 73

Haldeman's intv with Ervin staff/made public by NYTimes, which ~~got excerpts~~ had obtained a copy of the report; story on it includes excerpts, among them Haldeman's concept of executive privilege.

SFC [NYT] 13 Jul 73 at noon.*

Ervin calls Nixon by pre-arrangement. Nixon turns down meeting with ^{Ervin} Ervin panel, including senior lawyers; turns down meeting with Ervin and Baker; agrees to meeting - at some unspecified time - with Ervin alone, no others present. After this call committee adopts unanimously a resolution saying it believed it ~~had~~ was "entitled to have ~~unrestricted~~ access to every document in the possession of the White House or any department or agency of the executive branch of the federal government which is relevant to prove or disprove" the issues ~~involved~~ involved in their inquiry.

SFC [NYT] 13 Jul 73 in the evening AMP-A

Nixon goes to Bethesda Naval Medical Center with diagnosis of "viral pneumonia." P. 2 Mrs. Nixon, young Eisenhowers SFC 13 Jul 73, WXP 13 Jul 73 remain at White House.

Mrs. Mitchell calls UPI to deny that she had called 11 Jul to back Mitchell's testimony, suggesting call was made by an impositor; ~~says she stands by everything she has said~~ ~~precisely in UPI's words~~ says, in UPI's paraphrase, that she stands by everything she has said previously about the scandal. (See chronology attached to this clipping.)

SFC 13 Jul 73 WXP 13 Jul 73

~~Julia Mitchell says she stands by everything she has said~~
~~precisely in UPI's words~~

*"Senate [Ervin?] committee" source describes Nixon as being in an "emotional state" during 14-minute call, says he accused committee of being "out to get him." (See also entry 15 Jul.)

17 min - WXP

SFC [NYT] 23 Jul 73 over

"a telephone conversation described as bluntly candid" -
James M. Naughton, NYT 18 Jul 73

12 Jul 73 (2)

(Continuation from p. ① on Nixon hospitalization.)
Illness came as great surprise to some who had seen him the evening before, ~~amongst~~ in the group of ten Republican senators. Sen. Wallace Bennett: "He was perfectly normal there was certainly no indication of illness." Sen. Carl T. Curtis: "I thought he looked well, in good spirits I didn't think of illness at all."

~~WXP 13 Jul 73, Braestrup~~
In photos ~~of Nixon taken at 2:45 p.m., Nixon does not look ill or upset.~~ taken at 2:45 p.m., ~~Nixon does not look ill or upset.~~ following call from Ervin at noon, Nixon does not look ill or upset. Photos taken on visit of Foreign Minister Walter Scheel of West Germany, whose appointment was postponed until three hours later than scheduled.

WXP 13 Jul 73, Braestrup

Medical opinion by various doctors.

WXP 13 Jul, Auerbach, Cohn

Haldeman says this is the day he returned to Steve Bull tape of 15 Sep 72, plus tapes of meetings of three other dates. See entries 31 Jul 73 for details.

12 Jul 73 (3) Nixon, viral pneumonia, p. 1

12 Jul 73 - Nixon to Bethesda Naval Medical Center; diagnosis, viral pneumonia, nothing else wrong. Mrs. Nixon, Julie Eisenhower did not accompany Nixon to hospital; Tricia is at ball game in New York.

13 Jul 73 - No other illness. Doctor warns that after Nixon leaves the hospital there will be considerable malaise and feeling of lack of energy that may continue for some period.

Mrs. Nixon and young Eisenhowers visit Nixon, 30 minutes, later talk with doctors 15 minutes. None made any comment entering or leaving the hospital, "and Mrs. Nixon appeared tight-lipped and somewhat grim."

Sen. Hugh Scott says television network newsmen acted reprehensibly in questioning authenticity of Nixon illness, says reporters (not identified) asked a committee member (not identified) this morning if Nixon is really ill. (WXP 15 Jul 73.)

Ziegler says that while Nixon is in the hospital there will be no meeting with Ervin. Hospitalization, 7 to 10 days (19 to 22 Jul).

14 Jul - Dr. Tkach says pneumonia has spread to left lung. Dr. Tkach, asked if Watergate had contributed to illness, says, "I won't answer that." Mrs. Nixon, young Eisenhowers, visit, give uninformative comment, Mrs. Nixon "studiously [avoids] any comment." Following hospitalization, recuperation 10 days (29 to 1 Aug).

15 Jul - Nixon showing improvement, but Tkach concerned that he would "push himself too hard and too fast;" expects period of convalescence to run ten days after leaving hospital, expected to be 20 Jul.

Mrs. Nixon, after visit, is asked how Nixon is doing, replies, "Better." Ziegler says he has little energy, doesn't feel well enough to pick up a book; doesn't watch television.

(4)

- 12 Jul 73 Nixon, viral pneumonia, p. 2
- 16 Jul 73 - Continued improvement; could be out of the hospital by 19 or 20 Jul. Doctors say they are having trouble persuading Nixon to reduce work pace until recovery is complete.
- 17 Jul - Nixon recovering rapidly; will leave hospital 20 Jul, go to Camp David, *return to White House 23 Jul, about noon. To be on limited schedule for about ten days, with rest periods. (See NYT 18 Jul.) *three days
- 18 Jul - "Essentially a well man," according to doctors; Tkach says Nixon wants to leave hospital today, but persuaded by doctors to stay a day longer.
- 19 Jul - After a "final examination" doctors say indication is of "complete clearing of the viral pneumonia;" Tkach says Nixon "now more eager than ever to get back to work, and that he has "cautioned" him to report any fatigue.
Ervin receives "hoax" phone call, supposedly from Treasury Secretary George Shultz, announcing that Nixon is ready to release the tapes; **Ervin later has to announce it is not genuine.
Nixon begins drafting letter to committee saying he will not release White House tapes; no indication whether the draft was started in the morning, afternoon or evening.
- 20 Jul - Nixon leaves hospital, returns to White House, met by staff on lawn. Says doctors told him he must slow down, but he intends to "work up to the hilt all the time;" while many will say, "You will risk your health," no man's health is "nearly as important as the health of the nation and the health of the world." Says any suggestion he may resign is "just plain poppycock." "Let others wallow in Watergate."

Note - See entry 25 Nov 73, Nixon's pneumonia (coughing blood).

**Call is received just before lunch period; Ervin announces it as the afternoon session opens;

(12 Jul 73) AMP

Ⓐ - "More than \$4,589 [was] spent on new curtains for the presidential suite at Bethesda Naval Hospital at the time Nixon was a patient there in July, 1973."

WXP 5 Apr 75 - filed Nix Ad. (Article by Maxine Cheshire on money spent refurbishing WH during Nixon tenure, \$3 million)