

<sup>for</sup>  
~~13 Apr 73~~ (2)

(Continuation of footnote.)

William Greider, ~~giving~~ without attribution, says this interview was conducted by Donald Sanders, ex-FBI man who has served on HISC and is now a GOP staff member of Watergate committee, and that he was simply fishing, following allusions made by Dean about taping of April 15 meeting. Greider points out Butterfield's name has never been implicated in the cover-up, but that Butterfield's office was next to the Oval Office and he often dealt with principal figures in the case; quotes Dash as saying "afterwards" (after this interview?) that "We were doing a complete proximity investigation of anybody who had anything to do with Haldeman, Ehrlichman, Dean. That's the only way you get anything - by going over everybody."

Greider goes on to say Butterfield explains to committee 14-17 Jul that he assumed others from the White House had previously revealed the tape recordings in their interviews with Senate investigators, naming Haldeman and Higby; Dash says when these two were asked about any documentary evidence they did not mention that recordings had been made.\*

WXP 17 Jul 73, Meyer

WXP 17 Jul 73, Greider

See also WXP 22 Jul 73, Witcover

(Butterfield was planning to leave Tuesday, 17 Jul, to attend trade conference in the Soviet Union. - WXP 22 Jul 73; Witcover.) (See also J. Anthony Lukas, "Nightmare," p. 373.

Note: Memo to Haldeman from Butterfield, 20 Jan 70: "Fitzgerald\*is no doubt a top notch cost expert but he must be given very low marks in loyalty, and after all, loyalty is the name of the game." (NYT 2 Aug 73, p. 20, col. 2)  
\*[A. Ernest Fitzgerald] <sup>OVER - x</sup>  
See also editorial, WXP 12 Aug 73

OVER

\*See p. 2A, Dash says ...  
Butterfield testified ...

CONT'D (3)  
(2-4-7)

"[Assistant Watergate special prosecutor Richard Ben-Veniste] elicited another disclosure from [Raymond C. Zumwalt, Secret Service, testifying 17 Jan 74] - the disclosure that at least some persons at the White House had realized as soon as the Watergate break-in occurred that the taping system might have some significance in the days to come." See story for details on project to improve the taping system in July 1971, shelved when the break-in was exposed.

SFC 18 Jan 74 [NYT]

Ⓐ - "We should let him bleed for a while, at least. Any rush to pick him up and put him back on the federal payroll would be tantamount to an admission of earlier wrongdoing on our part."

Quoted by Ramparts, Jun 74, p. 23 - filed Magazines

(13 Jul 73 (2A)) (Misc. notes on Butterfield; tapes)

Alexander P. Butterfield, administrator of FAA. From 21 Jan 69 to 14 Mar 73 was deputy assistant to Nixon, senior assistant to Haldeman; was responsible for White House liaison with Secret Service, and for preparation of materials for Nixon library. (See note, p. 2d.)  
NYT 17 Jul 73, Naughton

Nixon, Haldeman, Higby, Butterfield, Secret Service were the only ones who knew of secret taping; \* Butterfield's secretary did not know of it when the system was first installed but was told "much later" because, when Butterfield was out of the office, she had to press the proper button; now known to Steve Bull, who succeeded (?) Butterfield, and Gen. Haig, who succeeded Haldeman.

Secret Service was responsible for maintaining the system and storage of the tapes; devices were installed by Technical Security Division of Secret Service [at that time headed by Al Wong]. \*\* (possibly also Chapin)  
NYT 17 Jul 73, p. 28 col. 4, Butterfield testimony

Butterfield testified that before his "appearance" (intv 13 Jul? - testimony 16 Jul?) Higby phoned him, urging him to tell "the whole truth." <sup>^</sup> Before this Higby himself had been interviewed once by committee staff, says he would have disclosed taping if he had been asked. OVER - A.

Following Butterfield's "appearance" Higby was called to two more meetings with committee staff. Was not scheduled or called as a witness in public session.

See entry, Higby, 30 Sep 73 (WXP, John Sarr)

Dash says (to reporters?) after today's ~~testimony by Butterfield~~ ~~hearings~~ that Haldeman and Higby also had been asked (no date) by the committee (staff?) about taping of conversations in the White House. \*\* "Dash indicated, however, that Butterfield's testimony was the first acknowledgement that such tapings took place."

WXP 17 Jul 73, Meyer

\*\*Haldeman intv'd by committee staff  
4 May 73. - NYT 13 Jul 73

\*Early Apr? - see entry 16 Jul 73, AMP B.

(28)

~~Butterfield's nomination for the position at FAA was submitted~~

Butterfield was hired by Haldeman, Dec 68. See also p. 2 K.  
WXP 17 Jul 73, Judy Luce Mann

- "Butterfield took charge of the FAA March 14, 1973 ... "  
Resigned 25 Mar 75, ~~although~~ resignation from FAA ~~was~~ is  
~~not~~ effective ~~until~~ 31 Mar 75.

SFC 26 Mar 75 [UPI]

(A) See entry, this page, Dash says ... ; see p. 2, second paragraph.

(B) See 16 Jul 73, AMP-B.

(13 Jul 73 (2B)) (Misc. notes on Butterfield; tapes)

"Gerald L. Warren ... reported [16 Jul 73?] that the White House had been informed that Alexander P. Butterfield ... planned to disclose the recording plan to the Senate committee."

NYT 17 Jul 73, Apple

Weicker: Now, in the interview which you had with the staff of this committee, on July 13, 1973, at 2:15 P.M., the interview, as reported by this staff, concludes with: "Butterfield stated this is all something I know the President did not want revealed, but you asked me and I feel it is something you ought to know about in your investigations. I was told no one was to know about the information I have told you." Is that a correct quotation?

Butterfield: I could not say that it was correct, but there was some reluctance on my part to reveal information which I felt could have a number of serious repercussions with regard to foreign governments. It is very obvious that this could be embarrassing to our Government.

NYT 17 Jul 73, p. 28 col. 8, Butterfield testimony

"Initially, Butterfield told the committee that the recordings had begun in July, 1970 [transcript of testimony shows he said "April or May of 1970 and perhaps the end of the summer or early fall 1970"], but then agreed to a memo, sent hurriedly to the committee by ... Buzhardt, stating the recordings did not begin until April, 1971.\*\* April, 1971, was the month in which the Supreme Court ruled that it was legal to record conversations when one party to the conversation had given consent to be recorded."

WXP 17 Jul 73, p. 19, Hanrahan

\*\*Nixon also "misspoke" in giving the date. From press conference 22 Aug 73: "[The taping capacity] was put into place again in June of 1970 ...." See text, WXP 23 Aug. <sup>ca p. 247</sup>

\*Buzhardt's letter does not say April, but "spring of 1971." WXP 17 Jul 73, p. 19, col. 8.

\*See p. 2F., Recording system (for date), Feb 71).

(13 Jul 73 (2c)) (Misc. notes on Butterfield; tapes)

\* SEE ALSO 2 E

- 10 Jul 73 - Haldeman, at Higby's home, receives tape of 15 Sep 72 from Bull.
- 11 Jul - Bull delivers tapes of three other meetings to Haldeman (place not specified). \*\*
- 12 Jul - Haldeman returns all tapes to Bull.  
- Nixon calls Ervin at noon, in an "emotional state," says he will not meet with Ervin committee; enters hospital in the evening.
- 13 Jul - Butterfield, in interview by committee staff, 5:30 p.m., tells of secret White House taping.
- 14 Jul - Butterfield ~~makes~~ prepares ~~was~~ to leave 17 Jul for trade conference, Soviet Union. OVER-  
^
- 15 Jul (Sunday) - Butterfield calls Baker, goes to Baker home. Baker says he will call Ervin and tell him of Butterfield's travel plans. Baker asks Butterfield if he had informed White House of what he had told committee, says no, is advised to do so. Butterfield calls Buzhardt and tells him. (WXP, witcovn, 22 July 73)
- 16 Jul - Committee serves Butterfield with subpoena because he was to leave the country the following day and because "there was concern that the White House might attempt to prevent his appearance by claiming executive privilege." Immediately after receiving subpoena Butterfield calls Garment, who tells him he has no choice but to testify. (WXP, witcovn, 22 July 73)  
- Butterfield testifies in open session.
- \* 7 Jul - Haldeman returns to WX. (Tape, Day 33.)
- \*\*11 Jul - One of the tapes taken by Bull from EOB safe covered conversations in Nixon's EOB office for the period 11 through 16 Apr, which presumably covered Nixon-Dean conversation 15 Apr. (See entry 1 Nov 73, Paz Cohen.)
- See entries 31 Oct and 1 Nov 73, headed Tapes, missing. (2 D)

Ⓐ-"Butterfield continues preparations to leave" instead  
of "Butterfield prepares to leave"?

(13 Jul 73 (2D)) (Misc. notes on Butterfield; tapes)

Butterfield's nomination as administrator of FAA was submitted in Dec 72; turned down by Senate Commerce Committee because he was a retired colonel and not a civilian, a requirement for the post. Butterfield and Nixon were "personally upset" because the committee had forced withdrawal of the nomination. Butterfield had his name withdrawn from retirement rolls, giving up retirement pay of about \$10,000 and medical and other benefits. Nomination was resubmitted ~~and approved~~ (no date) and approved Mar 73 (complete date not given). Nomination is approved without enthusiasm. Quote from "a Committee source:" "They felt he didn't have any real qualifications for the job .... "

WXP 17 Jul 73, p. 18, Mann

OVER-A

From Jack Anderson column: "Our sources say [Butterfield] was the White House liaison man with the CIA. .... [Butterfield] told my associate Joseph Spear that ... he had 'security responsibility' at the White House ... but was 'not aware' that he was a designated CIA liaison official."

WXP 8 May 73, Anderson

OVER-B

From column by Alexander Cockburn, "Press Clips," Village Voice: "[Woodward and Bernstein] say they were the first to hear about Butterfield and the tapes. Hugh Sloan, Haldeman's aide, mentioned it to them, but Post editor Ben Bradlee did not think the story rated more than 'a beta plus.' They passed the story on to Sam Dash, chief counsel on the Watergate Committee. Dash dithered so then they told Dash's assistant counsel Terry Lenzer [sic] about it. Lenzer then subpoenaed Butterfield who blurted out the whole story about the tape system."

Village Voice 27 Dec 73, Alexander Cockburn

In undated story, Vera Glaser says, "Despite rumors he'll be forced out as administrator of [the FAA] ... Butterfield insists he has suffered no retaliation for revealing the most embarrassing information yet to come from an official still in high office." She says "the super-loyal Nixon aide ... is super-cool about the crisis he triggered."

SFC 8 Nov 73

See Nixon on "enemies," p. 2G.

2E



Ⓐ Butterfield was deputy assistant to the President, from "the first day of the Nixon administration, January 21, 1969, until noon of March 14, 1973." (Testimony before Ervin committee, vol. 5, p. 2074.)

Ⓑ Butterfield, in his testimony before Ervin committee (Hearings, vol. 5, p. 2077) says he was liaison with the Secret Service.

(13 Jul 73 (2E)) (Misc. notes on Butterfield)

SEE ALSO 2-C

Additional chronology, see:

- 16 Jun 73 - Dean is interviewed ...
  - Ervin Committee postpones ...
- 16-17 Jun - Haldemans move from ...
- 18 Jun 73 - Nixon "shift" is ...
  - Senate committee meets ...
- 22 Jun 73 - Nixon in California?
- 25 Jun 73 - Dean testifies, first day.
- 29 Jun 73 - Dean testifies, fifth and last day.
- 2 Jul 73 - Butterfield - Ervin committee lists ...
  - Ervin committee ... in recess ...
- 6 Jul 73 - Nixon-Haldeman-Ehrlichman.
- 7 Jul 73 - Haldeman says this is the day he returned to Washington (in testimony 1 Aug).
  - Nixon formally advises ...
- 9 Jul 73 - Nixon returns to White House ... Jul 73)
- 10 Jul 73 - Haldeman says ... (See also page dated 9 to 11) ↑
  - Hearings resume after recess (witness, Mitchell).
- 11 Jul 73 - Tapes - This is ...
- 12 Jul 73 - Haldeman says ...
  - Ervin calls Nixon ...
  - Nixon goes to Bethesda ...
- 13 Jul 73 - Alexander P. Butterfield (staff intv) ...
  - (Misc. notes, p. 2D) From column by ...
- 16 Jul 73 - Butterfield testifies in open session.
- 30 Jul 73 - Haldeman testifies in open session, opening statement. This is two weeks following Butterfield's testimony; ~~tenth~~ days of hearings and six witnesses during this interval.
- 30 Apr 74 - Butterfield leaves for tour of aircraft factories on west coast. This is the day Nixon releases edited transcripts of some WH tapes. See Chron 30 Apr, 1 May 74.

(13 Jul 73 (2 F)) (Misc. notes on Butterfield)

27 Apr 73 - According to Petersen, speaking to Nixon, Butterfield was to be questioned by special prosecutor's staff this evening.

NYT 4 May 74, p. 22 - transcript of WH tape,  
27 Apr 73

See Entry 16 Jul 73, AMP B.

"Maybe it was nothing more than bad judgment that the tapes weren't destroyed within hours of Alexander Butterfield's revelation that they existed. The President would have had a plausible explanation for destroying them: The need to reassure foreign diplomats and heads of state that their private conversations with him would remain forever confidential."

WXP 8 May 74, William Raspberry

"A former White House staffer" says taping of Nixon conversations was Haldeman's idea, for the purpose of having a historical record. See entry 19 May 74, Haldeman/WH taping system ...

Bugging system was set up "some time before February 6, 1971."  
The Sony recorder used was a Sony 800B.

OVER-A

See article on the bugging system, where the bugs were placed, who did the work, the type of equipment used, etc.

WXP 12 May 74, Richard M. Cohen

Butterfield was to have been questioned by special prosecutor's staff the evening of 27 Apr 73, according to Petersen, speaking to Nixon.

NYT 4 May 74, p. 22 - Transcript of WH tape,  
27 Apr 73 (Nixon, Petersen,  
Ziegler).

See entry 25 Jul 73, WH tapes, destruction suggested ....

Recording system - "According to the testimony of Raymond C. Zumwalt [no date, no amplification], one of the Secret Service agents who set up the White House recording system in February of 1971, the seven microphones hidden throughout the Oval Office were connected to a two-recorder system. Mr. Zumwalt, the chief of the Secret Service's technical

OVER-A

(13 Jul 73 (26)) (Misc. notes on Butterfield)

[From previous page]

security division, testified before Judge Sirica last year that the two machines were used on alternate days. He said each had a six-hour and 22-minute recording capacity, and was activated by an automatic timer that switched the recording system from one machine to the other at midnight."

NYT 2 Aug 74, John M. Crewdson

Nixon, on "enemies" - "I want the most comprehensive notes on those who tried to do us in. They didn't have to do it. .... They are asking for it and they are going to get it."

Nixon transcripts, meeting with Dean, 15 Sep 72,  
p. 65.

9 Jul 74

House Judiciary Committee, inclosed hearings, is examining witnesses. "All the witnesses to date, except [Butterfield], were summoned at the request of [St. Clair] .... "

NYT 10 Jul 74, James M. Naughton See sep. item on  
Butterfield\*

Nixon - selective use of tape excerpt.\* James St. Clair, in his closing argument before the House Judiciary Committee, says that a tape which Nixon has refused to give the committee proves that Nixon ruled out a "blackmail" payment to Hunt. This is a tape of a discussion 22 Mar 73 between Nixon and Haldeman, during which, St. Clair says, Nixon told Haldeman, "I don't mean to be blackmailed by Hunt - that goes too far." St. Clair presents the committee with a two-page transcript of excerpt of the 90-minute meeting.

St. Clair says (apparently at a news briefing after the hearing) that Nixon decided to give the HJC this "critical portion," and personally authorized the use of the excerpt in St. Clair's closing argument.

See entry 18 Jul 74, St. Clair (HJC).

NYT 19 Jul 74, p. 19, James M. Naughton

\* On Butterfield's testimony in closed hearings, HJC, and for description of WH taping system, which was apparently very sophisticated (based on Butterfield's testimony? - not specified) - see "The Scum Also Rises," by Hunter S. Thompson. Rolling Stone, 10 Oct 74 - filed 20 Sep 74.

- See item above, House Judiciary Committee ....

\*See note, p. 2 K, Woodward and Bernstein ....

(13 Jul 73 (24)) (Misc. notes on Butterfield)

"Only if the President on the night of that fateful disclosure had summoned up the ruthlessness to destroy every last one of the tapes might he have been able to brazen his way to safety. It would hardly have mattered what excuse he offered for destroying all the tapes - national security, concern for the feelings of foreign visitors, respect for privacy, anything. .... The swift destruction of the tapes would have required great audacity. Mr. Nixon is capable of such audacity but he was not capable of it fast enough on that night a year ago when his secret became known."

NYT 16 Jul 74, William V. Shannon

See column by Joseph Kraft, WXP 17 Sep 74 (not on taping system).

Two-recorder taping system - For details, see testimony of Secret Service expert, James G. Baker, ~~who maintained the system~~ whose job it was to maintain the system.

WXP 7 Nov 74, George Lardner Jr.

✓ See entry 25 Apr 73, Nixon tells Haldeman .... (Nixon is worried Dean might have had a hidden tape recorder with him during their conversation of 21 Mar 73). See esp. AMP G, H, I

See entry 4 Jun 73, Nixon calls Haldeman .... (on ways to "pre-empt" Dean's expected account of meeting of 21 Mar 73).

"The tapes played during the last two weeks show that Nixon ... attempted to use the tapes to prove his innocence by having portions deleted that demonstrated his guilt."

WXP 24 Nov 74, Lawrence Meyer

Butterfield apparently to leave FAA, "with considerable reluctance on his part."

See entry 20 Dec 74

Related refs: 7 Jan 75, (17 Jan 75), 6 Feb 75,  
2 Mar 75, 3 Mar 75, 7 Mar, 25 Mar 75  
(submits resignation), 28 Mar, 11, 13 May 75;  
10 Oct 76 (Butterfield says he was fired  
as result of agreement between Nixon and  
Ford)

(13 Jul 73 (2 I) ) (Misc. notes on Butterfield)

11 May 75

Butterfield says in telephone intv/that he believes Nixon had prior knowledge of the first Watergate break-in; in prepared statement 13 May apologizes to Nixon family for having been "careless" and allowing the intv "to slip to Watergate and my personal opinions," but does not retract his statements.

Entries 11 and 13 May 75

L. Fletcher Prouty says Butterfield was a "contact man" for the CIA in the White House.

Entry 11 Jul 75 et seq.

See entry 1 Aug 74 on Butterfield memo, which "clearly was doctored by the White House."

On Butterfield, see article by Richard Raznikov, who suggests Butterfield might have been CIA's man in the WH, and that Watergate was CIA plot to remove Nixon. See note below,  
Pacific Sun 13-19 Feb 75, Richard Raznikov Haldeman.

Haldeman, in a series of syndicated articles, [UPI:] "speculates that [the CIA] may have helped engineer the Watergate scandal to destroy Richard Nixon!, suggests that Butterfield was "a CIA agent," but says he does not know that he was. Says "Alex originally approached the White House on his own ~~initiative~~ initiative - not because I recruited him. .... I have never understood why he ... suddenly wanted to be part of the Nixon team." \*

SFC 23 Jun 76 [UPI]

(Fuller account, p. 2 K, Misc. notes on Butterfield.)

(See also note above, On Butterfield .... )

On Butterfield, see J. Anthony Lukas, "Nightmare," esp. pp. 369-374.

\*See J. Anthony Lukas, "Nightmare," p. 372.

See also notes this date, p. 2K, Haldeman on Butterfield

(13 Jul 73 (24) )

(Misc. notes on Butterfield, etc.)

White House taping system - Adrian Hope, writing in New Scientist 8 Aug 74, reports on an article by Ed Sanders in 2 May 74 issue of Village Voice. Sanders based his article on intv of unnamed ex-employee of Scully-Metrotech, described by Hope as "one of the world's largest and most respected manufacturers of studio gear," which allegedly supplied recording equipment to the White House.

Hope describes the system as extremely sophisticated, including "no less than 14 professional Scully recorders [\$12,000 each?], together with studio mixing consoles and cassette duplicators." He says "it is believed that the professional installation dates back to the Johnson and even Kennedy Administrations but was augmented on Richard Nixon's instructions."\* Hope says (according to Sanders' article? - unclear) that the former Scully employee said the White House sound studio, on the first floor of the EOB, is [was?] manned by Army personnel.

New Scientist, 8 Aug 74, Adrian Hope

\*From text of Nixon press conference, 22 Aug 73: " ... when I arrived in the White House and saw this rather complex situation set up where there was a taping capacity not only in the President's office, the room outside of his office, but also in the Cabinet room and at Camp David and in other areas, ... I had the entire system dismantled. It was put into place again in June of 1970.... " [This date was corrected later the same day by deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren, who gave the date as Apr 71.]

WXP 23 Aug 73, p. 10, col. 2

p. 12, col. 8

- Neither Scully-Metrotech nor White House reply when asked for comment by Hope and by Village Voice.

(13 Jul 73 (2 K) )

(Misc. notes on Butterfield, etc.)

UPI report on a

Haldeman on Butterfield - Excerpt from/series of articles by Haldeman, published 20 to 24 Jun 76:

"Haldeman said he never understood why Alexander Butterfield, the aide who revealed the existence of the White House tapes to the Senate Watergate Committee, wanted to join the White House staff.

"'Alex originally approached the White House on his own initiative - not because I recruited him,' Haldeman wrote. 'He was soon to become an Air Force general. I have never understood why he insisted, against my advice, on dropping his commission. Or why he suddenly wanted to be part of the Nixon team.

"'In view of his subsequent role, these actions seem even more curious today. Was Butterfield a CIA agent? Maybe. I just don't know.

"'In retrospect, I'm ambivalent as to whether the agency was out to get Nixon. I don't dismiss it as an impossibility. I do believe there are a number of unanswered questions about the break-in at the Watergate.'"

SFC 23 Jun 76 [UPI]

- J. Anthony Lukas says Butterfield was serving in Australia (Air Force?) when Haldeman telephoned him from WX 12 Jan 69, with offer of WH job as his assistant. See this ref for other details.

"Nightmare. The Underside of the Nixon Years," by J. Anthony Lukas, p. 371

Woodward and Bernstein, "The Final Days," p. 43:

"Bull was aware of only one instance in which tapes had been taken from the vault in the Executive Office Building. On April 25, 1973, Haldeman had asked him to retrieve several reels that contained conversations between John Dean and the President. The President wanted Haldeman to review them. Haldeman seemed certain that the tapes would undermine Dean's statements to the Watergate prosecutors - that they would be Richard Nixon's salvation. ....

"At 10:16 [June 4, 1973], the President turned to the tapes. He was pleased with what he heard, as Haldeman had predicted he would be. This was his ace in the hole. He had exact accounts, whereas Dean had primarily his recollection. Nixon the lawyer realized the potency of this weapon, especially if it was used to arm those who were to cross-examine Dean."



13 Jul 73 (2) (3)

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."

NYT 14 Jul 73, Apple

Rebozo's personal financial records at Key Biscayne Bank & Trust Co. audited by four IRS auditors, ~~attracting when~~ ~~Rebozo was in Miami~~ and again on 16 Jul, according to WPLG-TV, Miami. According to either WEEG or WXPPost which carried story, Rebozo was not in Miami area at the time; unclear from wording whether he was not in the area at the time of the audit of 16 Jul or on both occasions.

WXP 22 Jul 73

"First Republic (1789- )" - From column by Nicholas von Hoffman: "We ... might speculate on how close we have come to having our government overthrown by its President."

See clipping for other references to possible take-over of the government, dating back to Apr 70.

WXP 13 Jul 73, Nicholas von Hoffman