

27 Aug 73 ①

Nixon - White House makes public audit of financial arrangements involved in purchase of San Clemente and Key Biscayne properties; audit prepared by New York accounting firm, Coopers and Lybrand, a new name for ~~fix~~ company known previously as Lybrand, Ross Brothers and Montgomery. Under previous name three of its top officials were indicted in 1968 for distributing false financial statements and mail fraud; the three were fined a total of \$17,000, did not go to jail; unconditional pardon granted by Nixon 20 Dec 72.

In the audit Rebozo is named as the secret partner of Abplanalp in the B & C Investment Co., which handled the financial arrangements; no indication that B & C had any other business.

SFC [AP] 28 Aug 73
SFC [WXP] 29 Aug 73 filed Nixon, real estate; check this file for later material.

Nixon decides to cut short California stay; had been expected to stay until after Labor Day weekend, which will now be spent at Camp David. Spokesmen in San Clemente give no explanation.

SFC [AP] 28 Aug 73

National Citizens Committee for Fairness to the President, chairman, Baruch Korff; objective apparently is to collect money for nationwide ads supporting Nixon. Has been in existence about four weeks; in that time contributions* have been received from over 10,000 people "who feel as we do that a gross injustice is being perpetrated by the Senate Watergate committee and the public media." WXP 25 Aug 73 has long story by John Saar.

SFC [AP] 28 Aug 73

Martha Mitchell - another phone call to Helen Thomas. New quote from Mrs. Mitchell, on Nixon: "He bleeds people. He draws every drop of blood and then drops them from a cliff. He'll blame any person he can put his foot on." According to Helen Thomas, she says she has been consulting a lawyer "but gave no indication she plans to seek a separation."

SFC [UPI] 28 Aug 73, Helen Thomas
NYT [UPI] 28 Aug 73, Helen Thomas [not identical with SFC]

*(\$84,000 in cash and pledges)

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27 Aug 73 (2)

Nixon-Haldeman-Ehrlichman defense. From column by Evans and Novak: "President Nixon's unequivocal linkage of his own Watergate defense to his claim of total innocence for ... Haldeman and ... Ehrlichman, a linkage that stunned even presidential aides, represents a high-stakes gamble for the future. Why the surprise? Because the President's top advisers have always expected Haldeman and Ehrlichman to be indicted, and nothing has changed their minds. ~~They would not expect to see their former associates indicted~~ Thus, the trials of Haldeman and Ehrlichman would become a de facto trial of Richard M. Nixon - precisely what presidential advisers wanted to avoid. Not even his own staff was prepared for Wednesday's total commitment to the Haldeman-Ehrlichman cause. All this, say Nixon staffers, reflects merely the President's unconditional loyalty to those unflinchingly loyal to him. Mr. Nixon's critics contend, without proof, that it suggests far more: a plot involving Mr. Nixon and his ex-aides, possibly reflecting fear the aides might turn on him. Whatever the case, it ties Mr. Nixon to the Watergate future in potentially ominous ways."

WNP 27 Aug, Evans and Novak; see also entry 6 Jul 73

Ervin committee - see memo 28 Aug, which belongs under this date.

Hunt - Time magazine says Hunt has testified 19 times before grand juries and congressional committees.

Time magazine, 27 Aug 73