

10 Sep 73 (1)

Tapes - "Senate investigators" say (no date) they ^{have} obtained new details on tapes of Nixon-Dean conversations during staff interview of Bull "last month." According to this account Nixon, then in California, on 27 Jun 73 (third day of Dean's testimony) ordered Bull to have flown to California as soon as possible the White House tape of Nixon's conversation with Dean 15 Apr.** Bull, also in California, told Haig there was no convenient flight from WX at that hour, 12 a.m. eastern time; was instructed to make arrangements for the Secret Service to play the tape at the WH for Buzhardt (at midnight*) so that Buzhardt could brief Nixon by phone.

Nixon is also said (by the same sources?) to have asked Bull on 4 Jun to listen to the recording of 15 Mar meeting of Nixon, Dean and Richard Moore. (SFC 1 Aug 73, gives the date as 14 Mar in story from NYTimes, but the Times version is cut before this point so date cannot be checked. WXP same date says Bull on 4 Jun listened to "a tape," no date. Post also says Buzhardt listened to tape of a phone call between Nixon and Dean 20 Mar 73, but does not give a date for this.)

SFC ~~[NYT]~~ 10 Sep 73, no attribution
SFC [NYT] 1 Aug 73; WXP 1 Aug 73, Cannon
Apple

Ervin committee - ~~undated story on~~ resumption of hearings. Committee intends to abbreviate public hearings; has decided against splitting the panel into two subcommittees; is opposed to a ban on television coverage.

~~SFC [NYT] 10 Sep 73~~

OVER - A

AP says that when committee reconvenes next week it expects to hear testimony from Colson, Hunt, Hunt's lawyer, and two attorneys for CRP.

SFC [NYT] 10 Sep 73, [AP] Naughton
SFC [AP] 11 Sep 73

Tapes - briefs filed in U.S. Court of Appeals by Nixon lawyers, and by Sirica in ~~reply~~ ^{of} response to a cross petition by Cox. White House brief says/Sirica's ruling [that the tapes be turned over to him for screening], ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~utterly without~~ "As recently as a year ago such a ruling would have been unthinkable . . . The change in the climate of legal and popular opinion . . . is the result of

* "the same night" ** See entry 31 Oct 73

* Talmadge, who had suggested splitting into two subcommittees, changed his mind, has joined Ervin, Inouye, Weicker and Baker in continuing as one panel; Montoya uncommitted but will support Ervin's decision. Gurney's position is not given in story, but ~~which~~^{it} says he has urged ending the hearings 15 Oct at the latest; Ervin's target date is 1 Nov. Gurney: "I've never felt so strong about anything in my life [that] continued dramatizing of this thing is total overkill and it is paralyzing the country. The country needs to be directed to other priorities."

NYT 10 Sep 73, Naughton

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← Watergate; and says that Nixon "is immune, unless and until he has been impeached, from the sanctions of the criminal law."
SFC [AP] 11 Sep 73

Bush, at semi-annual meeting of Republican National Committee, attacks the press on coverage of Watergate, calls it "a uni-issue press." Cheered, applauded and echoed by many delegates.

SFC [WXP] 11 Sep 73

Kissinger's part in wiretapping of members of his staff and newsmen is subject of memo turned over by Richardson to Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which is conducting hearings on Kissinger's confirmation as Secretary of State. Fulbright, chairman of the committee, says Richardson's closed-door testimony fell short of members' expectations.

SFC [NYT] 11 Sep 73

Liddy is cited for contempt by House of Representatives for his refusal to take oath as witness before House subcommittee. Matter will now be turned over to U.S. Attorney for presentation to a grand jury.

SFC [NYT] 11 Sep 73

Watergate cases now in federal and state courts - Ungar lists these as ⁱⁿNew York City; Baltimore; Washington, D.C.; Anne Arundel County, Maryland; Orlando, Florida; Houston; Los Angeles. With two grand juries in Washington, the total is eight. Also pending in federal court are several civil suits, such as those brought by Democratic National Committee against Nixon campaign committee and by Stans against Lawrence O'Brien (others not listed). Ungar: "Without any special prodding from the White House ["The time has come to turn Watergate over to the courts"] the Watergate affair has indeed been turned over to the federal and state courts "

WXP 10 Sep 73, Ungar (See also entry 23 Sep 73.)

Baker, in Chicago, says he thinks the country has weathered the worst part of Watergate and the issue now has "diminished importance," but he does not believe the public would be satisfied if the hearings stopped now, that the prevailing attitude seems to be "don't stop, but finish as soon as you can."

NYT 11 Sep 73 [UPI]

10 Sep 73 (3)

Tapes - Sirica, through his lawyers, tells U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that he would welcome a court order permitting Cox to join him in auditing WH tapes.* (See entry 7 Sep.) Court hearing on Cox's request to have the tapes delivered directly to the grand jury has been set for tomorrow.

Ervin committee and consumer groups had also asked to be heard tomorrow on their request for WH tapes and documents; denied today.

Nixon's lawyers object to the accelerated schedule set by the Court of Appeals, which has called for final written memos and arguments by 14 Sep.

WXP 11 Sep 73, Lardner

*One of Sirica's lawyers, Anthony C. Morella, denies 11 Sep that contrary to report in WXP (above) that Sirica had agreed to Cox's request that a representative of prosecutor's office be admitted to the screening session, all Sirica had said was that he would welcome screening guidelines from the court, as Cox had suggested.

NYT 12 Sep 73, Weaver

Connally, ^{guest of honor} ~~speaking~~/at WX reception given by Texas Republican Party for members of the Republican National Committee, speaking to newsmen, says, "We're leading ourselves into believing the Supreme Court is the ultimate arbiter of all disputes, and I don't believe it. I think there are times when the President of the United States would be right in not obeying a decision of the Supreme Court."

Also backs Nixon's right to conduct wiretaps for national security reasons. Says he had no knowledge, as Secretary of the Treasury during Nixon's first term, that Secret Service agents, who were in his department, had tapped Donald Nixon's telephone.

WXP 11 Sep 73, Broder

10 Sep 73 (4)

Nixon/poll. Gallup poll, taken 7-10 Sep 73, shows that 55 per cent disapprove of the way Nixon is handling his job as President, 35 per cent approve. This represents decline of three percentage points in approval rating since previous poll, taken soon after his 15 Aug speech on Watergate, and is four points above his low point of 31 per cent, recorded in early Aug following several weeks of Watergate hearings. That low point represented a drop of 37 points from high of 68 in Jan 73, "the most precipitous drop yet recorded for any president in a seven-month period. It was also the lowest rating given any president in 20 years "

On the question of whether Nixon should release the tapes to Sirica, 61 per cent believe he should, 32 per cent that he should not.

WXP 23 Sep 73

Associated Milk Producers Inc., at annual meeting (no date) in Arlington Heights, Ill., hears report by its general manager, Dr. George L. Mehren. Story is credited to CNS - Copley News Service?

Mehren says that on 28[?] Jan 72 AMPI was notified by Justice Department of projected anti-trust suit charging monopoly by AMPI; the usual waiting period of 60 days was bypassed and the suit filed 31 [?] Jan; Mehren was visited 3 Feb by Kalmbach, with request for \$750,000 campaign contribution. This was refused by Mehren, and later the same day the suit was signed. Comment by CNS: "Why Justice waited to sign the suit until just after Mehren turned down the Kalmbach request for money for Nixon may never be known. Mehren, however, thinks there is a definite connection between his denial of funds to Nixon and the Justice Department suit."

Co-op News (Consumers Cooperative of Berkeley, Inc.)

10 Sep 73

See also entry 18 Sep 73, on executive privilege (milk price supports).

See entry 6 Sep 73

~~See entry 24 Oct 73 (not yet entered)~~

See entry 23 Oct 73, 24 Oct 73

See entry 6 Dec 73

See NYT 27 May 74 (General article on AMPI, Mehren, etc.)