

10 Oct 73 (C)

Witnesses: Michael McMinoway
Fred Taugher
Lt. Kenneth Hickman

Agnew resigns as Vice President. WH releases texts of his one-sentence formal letter of resignation, addressed to Kissinger as Secretary of State, and of letters between Agnew and Nixon. * In letter to Nixon, Agnew says, "I have concluded that, painful as it is to me and to my family, it is in the best interests of the nation that I relinquish the vice presidency." Nixon, in his letter to Agnew, says, "Your departure from the administration leaves me with a great sense of personal loss. I ... respect the concern for the national interest that led you to conclude that a resolution of the matter in this way, rather than through an extended battle in the courts and the Congress, was advisable in order to prevent a protracted period of national division and uncertainty." WXP says that now, for the first time, a President will operate under Section 2 of the 25th amendment (proposed by Congress 6 Jul 65; ratification completed 10 Feb 67).

Agnew's resignation becomes effective legally at the moment his letter of resignation is delivered to Kissinger. UPI says this is "the exact moment" when a hearing begins in U.S. District Court in Baltimore, at which Agnew appears unexpectedly and pleads no contest to a single count of income tax evasion in 1967.

Agnew's resignation comes less than two weeks after he said he would not resign even if indicted (29 Sep). Tells reporters outside the courthouse after the hearing that, "The reason that I have changed my decision . . . is because I believe it would be against the national interest and have a brutalizing effect on my family to go through a long, two-to-three year struggle in this matter. I categorically and flatly deny the assertions that were made by the prosecutors with regard to their contentions of bribery and extortion on my part

SFC 11 Oct 73 [UPI]

* WXP 11 Oct 73 - texts of letters

SFC 11 Oct 73 - text of Agnew statement to the court

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Nixon (background as tax lawyer) - Jack Anderson: "After graduating third in his class scholastically from Duke Law School, Nixon joined the prestigious, old Whittier, Calif., law firm of Wingert and Bewley in 1937. He buried himself in work and rapidly became the firm's chief trial lawyer. He was also a specialist on estates and taxes."

WXP 10 Oct 73, Jack Anderson

XMP - A

Donald Nixon's business activities in Dominican Republic, Oct 69.

SFC 11 Oct 73, Jack Anderson

AMPI - "A secret \$5,000 Nixon campaign contribution from [AMPI, sometime between 3 and 7 Sep 71] was used to cover the costs of the White House 'plumbers' break-in at the offices of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist, it was learned [today]." See story for account of intricate maneuvers involved, apparently worked out by Colson.

WXP 11 Oct 73, Lardner

Colson/ Fielding break-in - See entry, AMPI

Fielding break-in - See entry, AMPI.

Security costs at San Clemente and Key Biscayne - James J. Rowley, head of Secret Service, testifies before House Government Operations subcommittee investigating public spending on Nixon's properties; says that in addition to the \$10-million already known to have been spent on the two properties, it costs \$500,000 a year for security [\$9,615 a week].

- See story for details on Key Biscayne fence, redesigned by Rebozo to resemble WH fence, at a cost of \$65,00, and building of wall around entire San Clemente property without the knowledge that ~~it~~ much of it was later to be sold to Abplanalp.

NYT 11 Oct 73, Shabecoff

See also entry 11 Oct, Nixon (improvements at ...

- ~~At~~ William J. Robinson, a GSA architect, testifies 12 Oct that he was ordered to change the specifications for a fence along the beach at San Clemente, from chain-link ordered by Secret Service, to one of redwood costing

(over)

(3)

\$11,561, at least twice as much as the chain fence would have cost.

NYT 13 Oct 73, Shabecoff

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Hughes/Rebozo contribution - Chester C. Davis, to whom Rebozo said he returned Hughes contribution, is questioned by Ervin committee investigators. See entry 12 Oct, Rebozo/Hughes
WXPost 13 Oct 73, Mintz contribution.

(10 Oct 73) AMP

(A) "As a young attorney in the late 1930s, Richard Nixon specialized in federal tax law, which made him an expert in how legally to avoid paying taxes."

WXP 16 Oct 73, Jack Anderson