

6 Nov 73 ①

Missing tapes - Bull testifies that on 29 Sep he took (in David Selvin's words) some seven or eight tapes to Camp David, for Nixon to review; during this weekend Rose Mary Woods listened to them while transcribing them or making notes; Bull then returned about five of the tapes to WH 1 Oct, leaving the remainder with Woods, who kept them another week. There is no indication these were returned. Bull says he does not know what happened to these seven or eight tapes, but says later they were locked in safe deposit box, under 24-hour-a-day Secret Service guard. On 4 Oct he took the tapes to Key Biscayne, where Woods again listened to them, typing as she listened. No dates are given for these tapes, which are apparently the same about which he testified 2 Nov.

After his testimony Bull is questioned by reporters, tells them that on 29 Sep, "based on the materials that I had, it was very difficult for me to find a certain conversation that was in question. But I never said that the President knew at that time that the conversation - particularly that April 15th conversation - was non-existent." (See entry 2 Nov.)

KPFA News 6 Nov 73, David Selvin, Pacifica, WX

John C. Bennett, retired general, deputy to Haig,* testifies (from context, today) at Sirica's hearing on the tapes that he assumed responsibility for the full library of White House tapes ~~last~~ 18 Jul 73, when the sound system was turned off and the Secret Service surrendered custody of the recordings.

Bennett testifies that of the dozen tapes ("dozen" is NYT's wording) taken to Camp David, Woods has never returned eight. Story does not say if the "dozen" were those taken to Camp David by Bull 28-29 Sep, ~~included those taken by Bull, or were taken there~~ (a contradiction as to the number, see entry above), ~~or~~ if the "dozen" included the seven or eight Bull said he took, or if the "dozen" were in ~~addition~~ addition.

Bennett says Woods now has 14 recordings of presidential conversations, including the eight mentioned in paragraph above, and that six of the tapes relate to a Nixon-Dean

*deputy assistant to the President,

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[from preceding page]
conversation of '16 Apr. According to Dean's testimony it was on that day he refused to sign two letters of resignation handed him by Nixon, and said he was unwilling to become "the White House scapegoat for Watergate."

SFC 7 Nov [NYT]

Nixon - Ervin ~~committee~~ says committee has decided to renew its attempts to interview Nixon and has instructed Dash and Thompson to contact WH lawyers "to ~~get~~ try to get a statement" from him; makes clear that by a "statement" he means the committee would question Nixon and that a written statement would not be an acceptable alternative. Ervin says committee would meet with Nixon "anywhere" and would not confine itself to a proposal advanced by Weicker that the committee meet with Nixon at the White House in a closed session, without putting him under oath but with a full transcript made of the session.

SFC 7 Nov 73 [WXP]

Richardson (Cox) - Testifying before Senate Judiciary Committee, Richardson says that even if all of Cox's investigations had led to indictments, this would not have inflicted "any additional damage on the White House or the President," that he knew of nothing new or "sensational" Cox was investigating which could have led to his dismissal, and that the "crunch arose" over Nixon's proposal to withdraw Cox's authority to bring court challenges to claims of executive privilege for White House tapes, notes and memoranda of presidential conversations.

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Vesco is arrested in Nassau on federal warrant for extradition to U.S.; released on bond.

SFC 7 Nov 73 [AP] See entry 19 Nov 73.

Butterfield, as of this date, is still head of FAA.
(Checked by phone inquiry.)

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Nixon - "The Aides Nixon Turns To; A Shrinking Circle," by John Herbers. Article on the narrowness of Nixon's day-to-day contacts (Haig, Ziegler, Kissinger) and growing unrest among some WH staff members. "A number of high officials who became disillusioned with their jobs and planned to leave were persuaded by colleagues to stay on grounds of loyalty. Some middle-level officials are leaving, however. One young man, who makes \$36,000 a year [and who is looking for a new job] ... no longer believes in the President, he said, and has decided the 'moral stature' of the White House is gone. He thinks the President is suffering from strain."

SFC 6 Nov 73 [NYT, Herbers]

Nixon (press) - Column by O'Flaherty on CBS Special, "The Embattled President" (4 Nov). O'Flaherty comments on the film clip included in the program, of Nixon's "last press conference" in California in 1962; "In the decade or more since then a lot has happened to him, but he has retained one quality through it all: his transparency on TV. President Nixon's recent castigation of the television press places the TV networks in an uncomfortable position. They cannot knuckle under to the White House and yet the President's record is so shabby that the mere recitation of it seems to substantiate the White House claim of unfairness. In spite of this amateurishness on Mr. Nixon's part, CBS News gave him a fair shake on Sunday's special. But even fairness looks bad for Mr. Nixon."

O'Flaherty includes comment on the program by Hugh Sidey, "who suggested that President Nixon entered the arena looking for a fight with the medium. To substantiate it he quoted historian James David Barber: 'That's his make-up. He's got to have a fight.'"

SFC 6 Nov 73, Terrence O'Flaherty

ITT - "Possible Perjury in the ITT Case," by Jack Anderson, and telegram to SFC from ITT in response to it.

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