

13 Nov 73 (1)

Nixon meets tonight with 15 Republican senators, whose comments indicate that the meeting answered relatively few specific questions, and that Nixon devoted himself to convincing them that he would explain his actions in full and soliciting their advice on when and how he should do this. Scott: "Everyone in the room - everyone - agreed on the need for full disclosure."

Sen. Pete V. Domenici of New Mexico says he pressed Nixon on reports earlier in the day about tape of conversation with Dean on 21 Mar; Republican congressional sources had quoted Haig as saying Nixon could be heard on the tape exclaiming, "Oh, my God!" when Dean told him of the cover-up ("thereby buttressing [Nixon's] frequent assertions that he had not previously known of it" - NYT). Nixon reportedly confirms Haig's account.

Baker, leaving the meeting, indicates to reporters that questions had not be erased from his mind. "I don't really think we got that far into the factual situation."

Brooke says he repeated to Nixon his view that he should resign, and that Nixon replied that resignation "would be the easy way out and he was not going to take it."

James Buckley "gave the most upbeat account of the meeting ... but even he did not venture to suggest, as have some White House aides in recent days, that the meeting clear up all the doubts surrounding Mr. Nixon's role in Watergate and related activities."

SFC 14 Nov 73 [NYT]

Resignation - Nixon says resignation would be "the easy way out" and he is not going to take it. See Brooke, above.

Ervin committee votes, ~~(today?)~~ ~~at 10:30~~ a few hours before Nixon's meeting with Republican senators, to ask Nixon for a private meeting, the transcript of which would be made public immediately. The vote is 5 to 1, Gurney dissenting; Gurney says it would be "to the benefit of the committee to work out other ways to see the President." Weicker and Democrats on the committee say publicly ~~in~~ (today?) that they would refuse to go to the White House as part of a larger group; Weicker says that "if we go as individuals,

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[from preceding page]
it detracts from [the committee's mandate." Gurney is
among those meeting with Nixon this evening.

SFC 14 Nov 73 [NYT]

Nixon - SFC carries two pictures, one of the Nixons at party
for Sen. Wallace F. Bennett (Rep-Utah), Nixon playing piano
and singing "Happy Birthday," Mrs. Nixon clapping to rhythm,
the other of Mrs. Nixon accepting first sheet of Christmas
Seals. Both pictures of events today.

SFC 14 Nov 73

Special prosecutor (and impeachment) - House Judiciary
Committee approves bill creating a court-appointed special
prosecutor (see entry 12 Nov), adding to it the requirement
that the prosecutor "report at least monthly" to the
committee chairman and ranking Republican member "such
information [and, if requested, provide any "information,
documents and other evidence"] as may be pertinent to the
question of whether impeachable offenses have been committed."

LATimes: "The vote ... was a voice vote, with the
chorus of 'ayes' coming mostly from the Democratic side and
the 'nays' from the Republican. If this voting pattern
should continue when the measure comes before the full House,
the bill would be approved but with less than the two-thirds
majority needed to override the anticipated presidential
veto."

SFC 14 Nov 73 [LATimes]

Impeachment - Ford, speaking at Nat'l Assoc. of Realtors'
convention, says letters and telegrams urging Congress to
impeach Nixon are stimulated by "pressure groups that have
always been opposed to the Nixon administration . . . If
you really believe that impeachment or resignation is the
only answer, by all means say so, but if you are part of
that much larger group that believes in fair play and in
the important things Richard Nixon had [sic] done and can
do for America, don't wait for someone else to do it for
you." Says, "The famous 'silent majority' has been living
up to its name."

SFC 14 Nov 73 [UPI]

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Nixon (income tax) - California income tax board has been asked by William M. Bennett (member of three-man state Franchise Tax Board) to determine whether Nixon is meeting any California income tax obligations he may have. Bennett says he has asked that this be discussed at meeting scheduled for 11 Dec. Kirk West, deputy to Houston I. Flournoy (state controller and a member of Franchise Tax Board), says he thinks the board will first go into executive session to hear Bennett's reasons for his request.

SFC 14 Nov 73 [AP], filed Nixon, real estate

Illegal campaign contributions - ~~Gulf Oil Corp.~~ Two major oil corporations (Gulf Oil Corp., Ashland Oil Co.) and a top executive of each (Claude C. Wild Jr. and Orin E. Atkins, respectively) plead guilty to having made illegal campaign contributions of \$100,000 each in corporate funds to Nixon re-election campaign. In addition, Gulf also pleads guilty to having made smaller contributions to Rep. Wilbur D. Mills and Sen. Henry M. Jackson.

SFC 14 Nov 73 [NYT]

Vesco - U.S. government lawyers say, at Nassau magistrate's hearing on New York state plea for Vesco's extradition on embezzlement charge, that if he is extradited he will not face charges that he sought favored treatment in return for secret \$200,000 contribution to Nixon re-election campaign. Bahamas extradition treaty stipulates that a defendant can be tried only for the offense for which he is extradited.

SFC 14 Nov 73 [AP]

See entry 19 Nov 73

Agnew - Maryland Court of Appeals appoints three-judge panel to preside over disbarment hearing, which could lead to Agnew being prohibited from practicing law anywhere in the U.S.

SFC 14 Nov 73 [UPI]

Krogh - U.S. District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell hears arguments on several pretrial motions, including request that he be granted access to a series of Nixon tapes and documents involving the plumbers. See entry 16 Nov 73.

SFC 16 Nov 73 [UPI]

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IRS - Jack Anderson says White House had IRS audit taxes of Robert Greene, author of series of critical articles on Rebozo for Newsday, and also suggested to IRS that they go easy on Billy Graham and John Wayne. Anderson bases this on what Caulfield "told the Senate Watergate investigators behind closed doors."

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Citizens for Morality and Responsibility place half-page ad in SFC, in the form of a ballot to be filled out on views of "President Nixon's actions and character" and whether he should remain as President, resign, be impeached, etc. Ad is signed by Norman Stone, Citizen, and Joel Fort, M.D., Citizen.

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*(son of Clement Stone - Caen column, SFC 20 Nov 73, not kept)

Tape, 20 Jun 72 - "The only comprehensive daily journal of the movements of various White House tapes is a two-page ledger submitted to Judge Sirica early last December by White House Counsel J. Fred Buzhardt. The document [was] compiled by White House aide John Bennett."

"According to Bennett's log, [following 1 Oct 73] the next movement of the controversial tape occurred on Nov. 13, * when he took the tape to technicians of the National Security Agency to make copies. Bennett said the two copies were made in his presence, and that the original was never out of his sight. The original, Bennett said, was sealed in a box on Nov. 14 and on Nov. 26 was handed to Buzhardt for delivery to U.S. District Court. ~~xxxxThe xxx~~ It was kept under guard in a safe in the court house until six U.S. marshals took it by train to New York for testing by the panel of court-appointed experts. The first copy, Bennett's log shows, was signed over to Buzhardt on Nov. 14. The second copy was kept in a White House safe until Nov. 29, when it was sent to Sirica, Bennett said."

WXP 16 Jan 74, Claiborne

*[today]

Norman Stone - See entry, Citizens for Morality ...

Clement Stone - " "

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Ford (nomination hearings) - Ford to testify today before
House Judiciary Committee.

Clark Mollenhoff, "The Man Who Pardoned Nixon,"
p. 279