

16 Nov 73 ①

Nixon - Breakfast meeting with 28 House Republicans, described by NYT as the eighth and final meeting with members of Congress.

According to Rep. Charles W. Whalen Jr, who took notes at the meeting, Nixon said Cox was fired 20 Oct because (Whalen quoting Nixon) "Cox changed his mind on Friday night (October 19) because of lack of confidence in Senator Stennis. We did not know until Saturday he had changed his mind." AMP - A

Cox, reached by phone, says he had "never questioned Senator Stennis's integrity at all." See story for Cox's chronology of letters sent to the White House, and time of their delivery, in which he stated his objections to the compromise plan. The earliest is a memo to Richardson 18 Oct, delivered at mid-afternoon. Story gives some of his objections, of the 11 he specified in memo to Richardson, and also objections expressed to Wright in letter delivered to WH by mid-morning.

SFC 17 Nov 73 [NYT] See entry this date, Rebozo.

Cox dismissal - Nixon version, see above. See also entry this date, "Ehrlichman, Colson, Krogh."

Tapes - Sirica says it will take several weeks for panel of technical experts to determine if the tapes have been tampered with, and that in the meantime he will review copies of the tapes to see which portions, if any, will be turned over to the grand jury. Hearings will resume 26 Nov.

SFC 17 Nov 73 [UPI]

C. Arnholt Smith is charged by IRS, in "allegations that have just surfaced in federal tax court," with failure to report \$24.4 million in taxable income in 1969 tax returns.

SFC 17 Nov 73 [LATimes]

Nixon (support) - Five Florida businessmen see Nixon at hastily arranged meeting, after flying to WX to deliver 31,000 signatures of support obtained in answer to advertisement they ran in Florida Times-Union.

SFC 17 Nov 73 [AP]

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Ehrlichman, Colson, Krogh - NYT, in undated story attributed to "informed sources," says that Buzhardt, beginning "in the summer," lobbied heavily with Richardson and Cox, arguing that federal indictments of Ehrlichman, Colson and Krogh should not be brought because prosecution would jeopardize national security. "The president's position is that certain cases could not be brought and if they were, the prosecutors would have to be dropped," one source said. All the sources agreed that ... the activities in question include previously undisclosed domestic wiretapping and other physical surveillance. The sources said "Richardson's and Cox's unwillingness to take White House direction on these indictments helped precipitate the showdown that led to the resignation of Richardson and the firing of Cox on October 20."

SFC 16 Nov 73 [NYT]

"From Dallas to Watergate" - Undated story by Vera Glaser on "five highly placed lawyers (Ford, Fensterwald, Jaworski, Powell, Sirica) who figured in the investigation of Kennedy's death [who] are now prominent in the Watergate crisis."

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Impeachment - Joseph Alsop: "Among the senior members of the House of Representatives, discussions are afoot which have the theme, 'Let's get it over.' The leaders of these discussions are Democrats ... but their motives are wholly national rather than partisan. They believe that 'the country can't afford to go on being torn to pieces month after month, with no end in sight.' In fact, although this is never admitted, they think it considerably more important to have an effectively operational President, than to go much further in trying to get to the bottom of the horrors comprised under the word "watergate." If you want a bill of impeachment to be voted up or down as soon as possible, and you further expect that it will be voted down, it can only mean that you give no very high priority to impeaching the President."

SFC 16 Nov 73, Joseph Alsop

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Lawyers - Charles McCabe: "A counsel for the District of Columbia has added up 125 lawyers figuring somehow or other in Watergate, 56 as members of the District bar."

SFC 16 Nov 73

Nixon signs Alaska pipeline bill.

SFC 17 Nov 73

AMPI's former lawyer, Jake Jacobsen has given sworn deposition (no date, no indication to whom deposition was given) indicating that Kalmbach solicited contributions a year earlier than he ~~testified he had~~ (Nov 70) said he had in his testimony before Ervin committee. Jacobsen says his law partner told him that AMPI gave Kalmbach \$100,000 in Aug 69; Kalmbach said he did not begin soliciting contributions until Nov 70.

SFC 17 Nov 73 [NYT]

Gore Vidal on politicians (intv).

SFC 17 Nov 73, Michael Grieg

Rebozo - At breakfast meeting with 28 Republican Representatives, Nixon tells them that the FBI had inspected the cash given to Rebozo by Howard Hughes. AP says this was apparently to verify that the bills returned to Hughes were the same as those given to [Rebozo] in 1970. "[Rep.] Charles W. Whalen Jr. (Rep-Ohio) quoted the President as saying Rebozo 'had the FBI check it out.' Mr. Nixon said the FBI took fingerprints from the money and checked the serial numbers of the bills, according to Whalen. However, one FBI source said a check of the serial numbers would prove little unless there was a corresponding list of the numbers on bills Rebozo received."

SFC 21 Nov 73 [AP] See entry 20 Nov 73, Rebozo.

(16 Nov 73) AMP

④ - See Congressional Quarterly, Watergate Chronology.
Vol. 2, p. 151, for account of this affair.