

13 Dec 73 (C)

Tapes (18-minute buzz) - Sirica, from the bench, reads a news release on the "preliminary result" of study of the tape by panel of experts, says ~~their~~ finding was that neither the high-intensity lamp nor the electric typewriter was the "likely" cause of the buzzing sound. Sirica says there are "some indications" that the Uher tape recorder "could have" caused the buzz, and that there are also "indications" that any voices which might have been on the tape appear lost beyond retrieval; both are "yet to be confirmed by further study." Says a full report on the 20 Jun tape is expected after the end of the year.

For the first time Sirica lists the specific questions asked of the panel. See story.

Unnamed NYT reporter "experimenting with a high-intensity light and a Uher recorder, managed to generate a sustained buzzing close to that heard on the tape."

After the court session Buzhardt says, "We'll accept whatever [the experts] find." Pacifica reports that after Sirica released the technicians' findings today, Buzhardt repeated his claim that he had almost duplicated the buzzing by using Miss Woods' equipment. "As he ran to his car Buzhardt said, 'We got the sound working with the lamp, the typewriter and the Uher recorder. We did.'" No explanation of why Buzhardt was running.

SFC 14 Dec 73 [NYT]

Pacifica, WX, 13 Dec 73, Paz Cohen

Nixon - WH, "[reflecting] reported presidential irritation over criticism by some congressmen of Mr. Nixon's private finances," is preparing to suggest that these critics disclose their own personal finances. The only one mentioned by name in the story is Weicker (see entry 11 Dec, Nixon, vice presidential papers).

SFC 14 Dec 73 [AP]

Nixon (train trip) - WH officials say Nixon, to demonstrate his concern over the energy crisis, will go to Florida on a specially-outfitted commercial train; trip will take from 20 to 24 hours. The presidential jet will still be flown to Florida, but fuel will be saved because the backup plane will not be sent. Presidential limousine may be driven to Florida or may be taken along on freight car. Nixon is

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expected to leave 26 Dec for a week-long stay at Key Biscayne.

SFC 14 Dec 73 [UPI]

- NYT: "According to White House sources, the President's Boeing 707 ... would not be flown to Florida. They said other procedures 'could be activated' if needed to allow the President 'to fulfill his role' in an emergency."

NYT 14 Dec 73 [Special to The New York Times]

Ehrlichman, Young, Liddy - In Los Angeles, state court of appeals refuses to halt criminal proceedings against these defendants. Defense attorneys had petitioned the appellate court for a writ of prohibition on the grounds that, in a legal sense, no conspiracy existed and no burglary was committed. LATimes: "The purpose of the illegal entry was only to photograph files, the defense claims." Their lawyers also claim the defendants could not be tried in state courts because whatever connection they had with the break-in resulted from their duties as federal officers.

SFC 14 Dec 73 [LATimes]

Saxbe's nomination is approved by Senate Judiciary Committee, by vote of 15 to 1, Ervin, who says Saxbe is constitutionally ineligible.

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ITT (William J. Casey) - "William J. Casey's nomination to be president of the Export-Import Bank ran into trouble yesterday in the Senate Banking Committee because of allegations that he tried to conceal information about the relationship between the Nixon administration and the [ITT] last year. The committee agreed unanimously yesterday to delay action on the nomination indefinitely." See story for details, and

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Earl Warren, speaking at National Press Club, "[decries] the Watergate scandal ... as 'conduct debasing our institutions' and 'cancerous to the body politic.'" Praises press for its "investigative reporting of the past year."

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Nixon (secret portfolio) - Jack Anderson says special prosecutor's office "has turned up" a set of secret tapes in which Franklin Deboer, for a time vice president in charge of the trust department of Rebozo's bank, boasts that he handled a secret portfolio for Nixon at that bank. Apparently, from transcript as given by Anderson, Deboer handled similar portfolios for Rebozo and Abplanalp. ^{AMP-A}

"A source close to Rebozo declared firmly that 'Deboer never handled any portfolio for any of the three individuals outside or inside the bank.'" Deboer's statement is denounced as completely false by a WH spokesman, who says Nixon's detailed financial statement completely refutes it.

Anderson gives no dates for any of this.

Anderson also says Richard Gerstein, Florida States Attorney, has subpoenaed the records of the Key Biscayne bank and "is known to be searching them for evidence of Deboer's dealings." See entry 26 Oct 73, Nixon press conf.

SFC 13 Dec 73, Jack Anderson

Vesco's company chartered a helicopter for use by former WH aide Harry S. Dent in his campaign appearances for Nixon in New Jersey last year, "according to records collected for a federal investigation." Story says other prominent figures, "including apparently a brother and nephew of Nixon" also used the helicopter.

"Despite an assertion by Harry L. Sears, former chairman of the presidential re-election campaign in New Jersey, that his committee paid[for the helicopter], helicopter records show that the International Controls Corp, then headed by Vesco, paid for the charter. Corporations are barred by law from contributing money or services to political campaigns."

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(13 Dec 73) ALP

(A) - See entry, 20 Dec 73, Vesco~~x~~ (Nixon, Donald Nixon).