

22 Feb 75 (1)

Nixon (Annenberg party) - "Wealthy and famous friends of Richard Nixon gathered [today] to honor the former President at a party at a millionaire's estate in this playground of the wealthy [Palm Desert]." (SFEEx.) "[He] was at the ... Annenberg home [21 Feb] when he heard of the sentencing of his former top aides.... He issued no statement." (WXP.)

Annenberg says the dinner is not in Nixon's honor and that some of the guests were invited several months ago; describes his guests as "old, intimate friends of mine and the former President." (SFEEx.)

Guests are Frank Sinatra and his "frequent companion," Barbara Marx; Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Firestone; John Swearingen, chairman of the board of Standard Oil of Indiana, and Mrs. Swearingen; Willard Keith, "Los Angeles civic leader; Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hope; Freeman Godsdon, "the one-time Amos of 'Amos and Andy.'" SFC says the guests "included" Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Reagan; WXP says Reagan was invited but it is not known if he attended.

SFEEx 23 Feb 75 [no attribution]

WXP 24 Feb 75 [From News Dispatches]

SFC 24 Feb 75 [UPI]

Vesco/Mitchell - Undated story. "Former Atty. Gen. John Mitchell used a CIA agent in efforts to free ... Robert Vesco from a Swiss jail, the Associated Press has learned." Writer says he was shown a memo, "stamped confidential," written by the unnamed CIA agent to Richard Vine, then deputy chief of the U.S. mission in Bern. "The memo describing the contact between ~~Wald~~ the CIA official and [the chief of Swiss intelligence] Hans Walder was made available to both prosecution and defense attorneys [in the Mitchell-Stans trial] but was never made public."

See story for details.

SFEEx 23 Feb 75 [AP, David C. Martin]

Mitchell - "How Mitchell Freed Vesco." See entry, Vesco/Mitchell.

CIA (Vesco) - See entry, Vesco/Mitchell.

"Watergate Toll: Case Histories of 17 Men."  
NYT 22 Feb 75

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William T. Coleman Jr. - See entry 7 Aug 74, same heading, on intv of Coleman shortly before he was sworn in as Secretary of Transportation 7 Mar 75. Story lists Coleman's suggestions for inducements to Nixon to resign, which he says were published 7 Aug 74, the day before Nixon did resign; these resemble the provisions of the pardon.

WXP 22 Feb 75, Aaron Epstein

Nixon (television?) - Negotiations are underway for a "Nixon special" on television. See entry 26 Mar 75, same heading.