

20 Apr 75 (1)

Nixon Library, USC - "Former President Richard M. Nixon and the University of Southern California said today that Mr. Nixon was giving papers and materials accumulated over his years in public office to a Presidential library to be established on the university's main campus. When completed, the library would be deeded to the Federal Government. [See entry 17 Feb 75, Nixon, additional donation ...] The joint statements left unclear, however, the question of what papers and materials the former President was legally empowered to donate to the university. Also left unsaid in the joint statements was ... under what conditions the public would have access to the material." (NYT.)

WXP, on access, quotes from the Nixon statement that it is his view that such material "should be preserved and made publicly available under terms consistent with the protection of the rights of others and with appropriate safeguards where materials regarding U.S. foreign policy and national security are concerned."

Nixon says that if the 1974 act is held unconstitutional and he regains possession of the material, he will ask the GSA to amend his agreement with it so that the tape recordings "will be available in the presidential library for public review under arrangements similar to those existing in other presidential libraries." (WXP.)

UPI (SFC) says (unclear whether this refers to the amendment mentioned in the previous sentence) that if the law is declared invalid, "he will ask [the GSA] to eliminate the provision of [the] agreement ... that the White House tape recordings would be destroyed after his death."

WXP says the Nixon-USC agreement was worked out in six weeks of negotiations (this would cover the period from 9 Mar to date) between the USC board of trustees, USC president, John R. Hubbard, and the Nixons; the negotiations were concluded "late Saturday" [19 Apr] at Annenberg's estate at Palm Springs.

Mrs. Nixon is a 1937 graduate of USC. Leonard K. Firestone is a trustee of the university, as is Herbert G.

SFC 21 Apr 75, [UPI]

Klein.

WXP 21 Apr 75, Peter Masley

NYT 21 Apr 75, [Special to NYT]

20 Apr 75 (2)

Oval Office 'bug,' 1970 - WXP, AP and UPI report on an article by Tad Szulc, written for July issue of Penthouse Magazine. The account by WXP begins, "Penthouse Magazine said [today] ... " which suggests these reports are based on an advance authorized by the magazine.

Szulc's article says a sophisticated laser beam transmitter, hidden in a wall of the Oval Office and concealed beneath a coat of fresh paint, was removed in early Aug 70. The device was "apparently controlled by one of the intelligence agencies," and was installed by a foreign-born painter employed by the government, whose name is known to Szulc. "Szulc said ... the device ..., unlike a tape system, could identify every individual voice in the room as well as several separate simultaneous conversations, [and] picked up all telephone conversations, including those made over 'secure' scrambler lines." The operation was code-named "Easy Chair."

Most of the preceding was taken from WXP; see clippings for other details.

WXP says the Oval Office was bugged "before August, 1970," AP, "for several months in 1970," UPI, "for several months in 1970 [and] was discovered and removed in early August 1970." The use of the phrase "for several months" suggests there was some knowledge of the time the bug was in place.

Nixon, at press conference 22 Aug 73, said that after he had the WH "taping capacity" dismantled when he took office, it was "put into place again in June of 1970." For correction of the year to 1971, see entry 22 Aug 73, p. 2, Nixon press conference; entry 13 Jul 73, p. 2B, Misc. notes on Butterfield, who made the same error.

WXP 21 Apr 75, Austin Scott

NYT 21 Apr 75 [UPI]

SFC 21 Apr 75 [AP]

Nixon (custody of tapes and papers) - See entry, Nixon Library, USC, third paragraph.

20 Apr 75 (3)

"CIA's 'Mata Hari' stole Castro's secrets" - Undated story. Story is based on intv of a woman whose name is given as Marie Lorenz, in which she tells of her involvement with Sturgis and of some of his activities. Her own involvement apparently began in early 1959 when Sturgis recruited her for the CIA, after which, she says, she stolè documents and maps from Castro's filing cabinet, turning them over to Sturgis.

"When cash was needed, it came from a CIA man she knew only as Eduardo. Years later, while reading about the Watergate break-in, Marie saw a newspaper photo of former CIA man E. Howard Hunt and immediately recognized him as the elusive 'Eduardo.'"

SFEx 20 Apr 75. NY News, Paul Meskil - filed CIA

Marie Lorenz)
Fiorini/Sturgis { See entry, "CIA's 'Mata Hari' ... "
Hunt/Eduardo)