

30 Jun 75

Nixon (custody of tapes and papers) - Nixon files affidavit in U.S. District Court in connection with his suit challenging the law giving the government custody of the materials.

In the affidavit Nixon says, "President Johnson sent word to me that he had learned that as one of my first actions upon arriving at the White House I had ordered the removal of the recording devices he had installed there," and that "President Johnson said that the recordings he had made of his ~~recordings~~ conversations while President had proved to be exceedingly valuable in preparing his memoirs and he urged that I reinstall the recording devices. Thereafter, I consented that this be done .... "

Story, paraphrasing affidavit, says the Johnson recommendations "[were] made through a mutual friend who was not identified."

In the affidavit Nixon says he had planned to have the tapes, after his death, placed in a presidential library, but that he would have deleted conversations containing purely personal discussions.

Story points out that the Johnson and Nixon taping systems were different, attributing to unnamed "source" the statement that Johnson was able to turn the system off and on at will. A ~ P - A

WXP 2 Jul 75 [AP]

Nixon - See column by Hoppe, "Stonewall It, Mrs. Gandhi."  
SFC 30 Jun 75, Arthur Hoppe

(30 Jun 75) AMP

Ⓐ - For more details, see NYT 7 Jul 75.

UPI: "Mr. Nixon, often accused of conducting an 'imperial presidency' isolated from reality and shielded even from members of his own Cabinet, [in the affidavit] sketched a far different picture of life inside his White House.... It is a picture of a man who often worked into the early morning hours on drafts of speeches, wrote letters in longhand to the families of Vietnam casualties, and sought outside advice as he weighed legislative and military decisions."

Nixon, in the affidavit, lists as "a few of the available examples" of the "dramatic changes" he instituted in foreign policy "the opening to China, our new relationship with Russia and a new initiatives to dampen the powder keg in the Middle East."

NYT 7 Jul 75 [UPI]