

19 Jul 75

Ford (Nixon) - Tom Braden, commenting on remarks by Howard Callaway (entry 9 Jul, same heading), says Callaway "must know that any Democratic candidate who will not remind the American people that Gerald Ford granted a full and complete pardon to Richard Nixon would be derelict in his duty...."

"The Democratic candidate, whoever he may be, might also suggest that Gerald Ford play us the tapes of his conversations with Richard Nixon. Those tapes have never been subpoenaed because the relations between the two men were never in question until the pardon.

"But when Mr. Ford pardoned Nixon, a lot of people were reminded that the White House tapes show Nixon suggesting Mr. Ford as the man to stop Rep. Wright Patman's (D-Texas) early move to investigate the Watergate break-in.... One way to silence any lingering suspicions of a Nixon-Ford deal would be to make public the tapes of Nixon-Ford conversations."

Braden's reference to Ford and Patman may be based on mention of them in tape of 15 Sep 72; see Congressional Quarterly Watergate Chronology, pp. 42-A, 43-A. See also CQ p. 164, Dean's account of the meeting of 15 Sep 72.

WXP 19 Jul 75, Tom Braden

Nixon-Ford tapes? - See entry, Ford (Nixon).