

CBS News (transcribed from tape) 10 a.m..

22 April, 1973

Allen Jackson

.....A newspaper in California, the Los Angeles Times, says that former White House counsel Charles Colson reportedly has documentary evidence that the administration did try to cover up the Watergate case. Interviewed by CBS News, Colson disagreed with much of that report but he indicated that he is willing to pass along whatever information he has or obtains..

Colson [voice]: I have from the outset said that I had no knowledge or from the press -- I have from the outset said that I had no knowledge or involvement in the Watergate. Now my attorney has been doing a lot of investigating in the past two months, and any knowledge which I have I have freely passed along, and willingly passed along, and eagerly passed along, to investigative authorities, and I am not going to engage in the kind of activity by innuendo that others have engaged in. [end of item]x.

CBS News (transcribed from tape) noon

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.....The Los Angeles Times [says] that former White House counsel Charles Colson had in his possession documents showing that the White House had tried to cover up the bugging. It also said Colson was ready to testify to that effect. Colson denied it to CBS News.

Colson [voice]: The implication of that is just outrageous. We have been cooperating fully with the grand jury and with the FBI -- I have been -- ever since the first reports of the Watergate. And I have continued to do that. Through my attorney, Mr. Shapiro, I have this week provided additional information to the U.S. Attorney. But to suggest that that means that the information I have provided suggests that there was a cover-up is just -- to me that's the kind of shocking journalism that's been altogether too prevalent in the Watergate reporting. [end of item].