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PRO & KAHN

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One of the proper criticisms of the press is that when President Johnson was lying to the American people and the press invented the term "credibility gap" — something that pertained, I think, to the light at the end of the tunnel and winning in Viet Nam. They should have called Mr. Johnson a liar — but politeness won out.

Let's not make that mistake anymore. Let's use the simple, old-fashioned term of "liar" to describe those in government who do not tell us the truth. If they do not like being described as liars, then let them prove that they are not. I am just old fashioned enough to believe that I am entitled to the truth from the top people in government.

Let's take the Watergate hearings. If a man from Mars were to stumble into the meetings, he would think the people on the witness stand were from the Mafia—explaining why, in accordance with the Mafia code of "Omerta", they did what they were ordered to do and never thought or asked a question. This is, of course, appropriate for a President who promised to take crime out of the street—but forgot to mention that he was going to move it into the White House, the Executive Office building, the FBI, the CIA, and the IRS.

Philosophers for generations to come will discuss the Nixon addition to this social science—"retrospective ethics" or the sudden realization by so many of his close associates that "at this point in time" I realize that I should have done something else. The fact that Mr. Nixon was surrounded by so many practitioners of retrospective ethics is because people who follow "prospective ethics", and who consider the morality of what they do, were not willing to associate themselves with Mr. Nixon. I am sure that Bart Porter's parents are proud of him — they started him off supporting Nixon when he was 6 or 7 and when he was 30 he was able to lie and destroy evidence for his Idol.

We must not forget the collection of liars that Mr. Nixon brought with him from his 1962 campaign for Governor of California — Haldeman, Kalmbach, Klein, Ziegler, Stans, Weinberger. They knew they were liars then — yet Kalmbach pleads that he did things for Haldeman in 1972 because he

respected the 2nd highest person in the White House and didn't think Haldeman would do anything wrong. Kalmbach knew, however, that they all got together in 1962 and created a thing called "The Committee For the Preservation of the Democratic Party in California." After that they violated laws on mailing the material, issued dishonest reports to the press, and filed a false financial statement. All of this is set forth in a court decision.

It is too bad that the Democratic Party took Tricky Dick at his word when he announced, "You won't have Dick Nixon to kick around anymore." They had it in their power to get a criminal



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## *Perspective on Nixon & his little people*

conviction of Nixon — and then he would not have been eligible for the Presidency. That could have been their greatest contribution to United States history.

It was amusing to hear Mr. Mitchell express his fear that if Emperor Richard knew about "the White House horrors" that he would have blown the lid, even if it cost him the election. This is the same Nixon who responded so promptly when Assistant Secretary of Defense Jerry Friedheim admitted intentionally sending dishonest figures on bombing Cambodia and Laos to a Senate Committee. He said, "we weren't smart enough to foresee" the testimony of an honest but disgusted Air Force

Major. Do you remember what Mr. Nixon did when this was announced? He kept quiet — and kept Friedheim in there to lie again.

**We can enjoy that magnificent cabinet — a lying Attorney General, a lying Secretary of Commerce, a lying Cap Weinberger at HEW, a lying Secretary of Agriculture. And so it goes.**

There is an interesting story now being investigated by the FBI of how Mr. Stans kept his hand in between elections. While sitting on the board of a subsidiary of Western Bancorporation, they set up a deal where the fee for directors was doubled and then one fee was kicked back to the three top bank officers to create a fund to use to bribe officials in the State of Washington to leave non-interest bearing accounts with the bank. The key bank account to check, unless the records have been destroyed, is 40-210-474 at the National Bank of Washington for the years 1967 through 1970 and the officers who had access to the account were Goodwin Chase, president, and Tom Owen and Charles Randall, senior vice presidents. The FBI has been contacted — and they might also check to see how many other subsidiary banks followed this procedure.

In the White House today, shoulder-by-shoulder with Mr. Nixon we find that stalwart Melvin Laird, the man who kept the Army from investigating the killings at Kent by the Ohio National Guard but who was pleased to extend military intelligence into creating a data bank on hundreds of thousands of Americans whose views Laird did not like, even though those people had not broken any law. You may recall that he seemed to relish the fact that Senators and Congressmen were included. And the man who is now Laird's superior is the former Army Deputy Chief of Staff, Mr. Haig, who was trained in such work by Mr. Laird.

The White House paraded Richard Moore as their prize witness and when this bumbler got through with this testimony (he could remember everything they coached him on but nothing else that he was asked) I feared for the country with men like this as key advisors. The dishonest ones had great ability!

Even Julie Nixon Eisenhower, who was sent out to shill for her father, and then was cut off at the pockets, has to throw out innuendos like "John Kennedy had three houses and the government PROBABLY spent a lot on them." (If Nixon knows the answer, let him tell us but not the way Julie is doing it.)

Mr. Nixon is retracting on his promise to provide all necessary records to his own Watergate investigator and has said that when everything is discovered that can be found out without his help, he will put together a special script that will explain everything. This, of course, will be the biggest lie of all times. In the meantime, if you should have occasion to telephone Mr. Nixon and he says "Let me on the other extension," I would suggest you hang up!