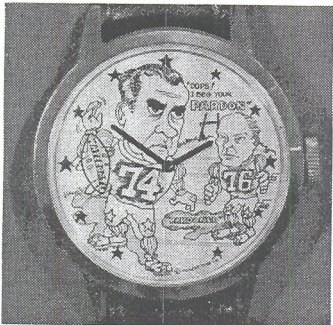


FORD VS. CAMPAIGN REFORM

President Ford is going all out to kill the single major legislative result of the Watergate investigations—the campaign-spending reform bill—because he doesn't like public financing. The bill has passed both houses in different versions and is currently before a Senate-House conference. Last week, in the midst of the Nixon-pardon furor, Ford called one conferee, Republican Rep. Bill Frenzel of Minnesota, off the House floor and bluntly told him: "I want the campaign-spending bill killed in conference." Frenzel replied: "Mr. President, we'll get a worse bill out of the next Congress." Ford retorted: "I'll cross that bridge when I come to it." Frenzel repeated the conversation to colleagues, adding incredulously: "It would be political suicide for Republicans to kill a reform bill in the year of Watergate."



Robert R. McElroy—Newsweek

WATCH OUT!

First there was the Agnew watch, then the Nixon watch (with the immortal words "I'm not a crook") and now the Ford watch. Actually, Honest Time, Inc.'s timely

timepiece offers two Presidents for the price (\$19.95) of one, to commemorate Ford's pardoning of Nixon.

GILT-EDGED SECURITY

While former White House chief of staff H.R. Haldeman awaits trial for his part in Watergate, the Secret Service chief he ousted from the White House last year has landed a plum job. Robert H. Taylor, 49, who tangled with Haldeman over Nixon security procedures, is now head of the private security forces for all the far-flung Rockefeller family enterprises.

DEFENSIVE ACTION

Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger is clamping down on press leaks. Last week, he told the Pentagon's top military and civilian leaders he didn't want to read any more news stories revealing Defense studies of possible budget cuts and command reorganizations, leaks of Russian arms sales to the Mideast or Soviet missile developments. Schlesinger is sending Pentagon security agents, news clippings in hand, around to various DOD staffers to ask if they're the sources.

ARABESQUES ACROSS THE SEA

Prima ballerina Suzanne Farrell may come dancing back to her discoverer this fall. The 29-year-old protégé of ballet-master George Balanchine is reportedly negotiat-

ing a return to his New York City Ballet after four years with Maurice Béjart's ballet in Brussels. Farrell and her husband, dancer Paul Mejia, left New York in 1969 after a blowup over the meager roles assigned to Mejia by Balanchine. Farrell and Mejia won't talk about the reports, but they point out that while they are still under contract to Béjart, "if we leave, there definitely would be no bad feelings involved."



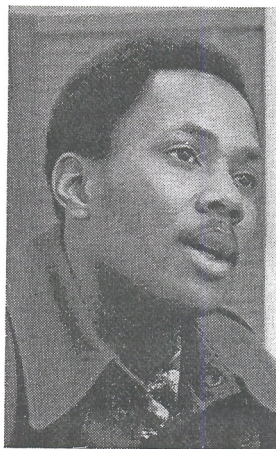
Martha Swope

THE UNMAKING

Theodore H. White, who has made a career out of chronicling "The Making of the President," has sold his new book on Nixon to the Book-of-the-Month Club as a spring '75 selection. He's about two-thirds of the way through his writing chores, with a January 1 deadline for the last of his 120,000 words. No title yet—but it won't be called "The Unmaking of the President." White will explore "the roots of the Nixon team, and the beginnings of public-relations politics back in California in the '40s."

KEEPING 'EM FLYING

The government is developing a three-point competition-curbing plan to save Pan Am from bankruptcy. The idea is to attract private investors by helping Pan Am become more profitable. That would be done by (1) cutting competition from charter airlines by raising their rates, (2) allowing Pan Am and other international carriers doing business in the U.S. to drop flights on which at least a 55% passenger load cannot be maintained, and (3) restructuring air routes in cooperation with other countries. This would result in fewer flight choices for the public, but the remaining runs would be profitable, saving U.S. taxpayers the cost of subsidy.



AP

FOR SERVICE RENDERED

Frank Wills, the black security guard who discovered the Watergate break-in two years ago and has been out of a job most of the time since then, may finally get some practical help. The National Urban League is offering to train Wills, 26, for a new vocation or business career. His first choices: broadcasting and law enforcement.