

the ABA committee said more than  
half the men in all jails are  
awaiting trial! H

10/11/72 Watergate Whitewash-Media. According to the local part of the evening news of  
the Washington CBS TV station, WTOP-TV, which said it was quoting the St. Louis Post-  
Dispatch, Walter Cronkite got one of the Dirty Dickery calls, allegedly from Frank Nankiewicz.  
Afterward, Cronkite had doubts, phoned M and learned M had not phoned him. So, on tonight's  
CBS net news with Cronkite, there was no mention of it. Not normal journalistic instinct,  
not normal reporting. There was almost nothing, as I recall, if not nothing on this. There  
was no NBC evening net TV news here at least because of a baseball playoff game that was  
broadcast.

OCT 14 1972

DC jail revolt: TV and radio reporting excellent, esp. TV as I saw it on CBS' WTOP. Kids with  
old, hardened criminals, awaiting trial "for 16 months and more". The revolt, regardless of  
how it started, wound up being for trials and decent lawyers. I'm not up to date, but as  
of 7 p.m. last word is that they had started to bus prisoners to court for trial but there  
was no judge in courtroom. Also no precedent. Shirley Chisholm seems to have been a real  
heroine, was magnificent in live interview. Everything, including her, made society the  
culprit. Prisoners who had been convicted and were serving sentences elsewhere actually got  
to send a delegation with their warden to help negotiate! Last demonstration of which I heard  
was in the courtroom, when the U.S. Marshals started to search the prisoners. They said, to  
illustrate the dehumanizing, let's do it like in jail and all stripped naked at once. Every-  
thing, explicitly and implicitly, emphasized the dehumanizing and deseparation. These men were  
ready to die and I suspect before Chisholm wanted to. But what a switch, for the accused to be  
demanding immediate trials! And what an indictment, being without bail for that long! Thecons  
from the other jail, asked why they were there, said to prevent another Attica. Wonder how?  
All were black. From the time they got a Wash Post reporter out of bed (this started at 2:30 a.m.)  
until the last I heard, the prisoners asked for reporters to be with them at what they regarded  
as crucial points and arranged an interview so the press could question them. One white lawyer

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