

Dear Howard,

8/2/73

Your three brief notes, beginning 7/25, with the Timeses of 25, 6, 7, 30, 31 came today. No chance to look at till bedtime. I've not looked at the clips but have read the notes. The point you raise fascinates, Hoover's papering of the files. It is valid and, as you know I've long been saying it. However, in the case, the one I can imagine, I'm sure I'm on the side of the dead fascist as compared to the living.

Sometimes in my search for simple solutions, I do err. In this case, I'm confident.

Let us look at it a different way. What was Hoover asked for? Info on demonstrators, pref. with planned or records of violence. This was his meat. What reason did he have for withholding from the WH? None that I can think of. Perhaps in individual sensitive cases, like where his boys did the blowing or supplied the stuff. But aside from that, his files bulge. He had no reason for withholding and every reason for unloading. I am sure he never held back and that he did unload. Boxes and boxes of the crap.

Especially because he knew they wanted him out, not because of any of the given reasons but to get a politician in that spot for what a pol, like bumbling Grey Gray. If it hurt him naught to deliver, he thus had every reason to deliver.

Rather would I sieze upon the use of words that require defining. That what Hoover sent was "worthless" is the value(less) judgement of the WH amateurs/overt fascists. They are a soeciak crew, kind of Garrisonian. If the fact doesn't suit their preconceptions, it is not the preconceptions that are invalid. It is the fact that is deficient. They actually believed all these beardos had bombs in their pocket and small ones stashed in their hair. Convinced of this nonsense, they were thus convinced that Hoover was incompetent. We know that he has always had such groups thoroughly penetrated, well covered. So did the local pigs. The, Big Hog drawing from them and having this sty of his with overflowing trough, why not deliver to the big pig of them all?

It is not often I can disagree with you twice in one note, but I disagree with the absences from the WH to escape the bugging (accomplished by simply throwing a switch and cutting off the power. All we know of David is that his own lodge was equipped in his main room and his phone there. No more. There are many small lodged there. My belief, for which I have zero proof, is that he has a thing about the WH because he knows he doesn't belong there and has a thing about being there.

My theory on the tapes is well developed, partly on paper. If I get up early in the a.m. I may be able to finish before taking Lil into town and the opening of (and on) Gray. This was part of his unsubtle trap, part of his growing counterattack as yet little seen.

I'd be willing to suggest that these tapes, in his mind, would be his Mein Kampf.

Dean and GL's odd, drawing-out interview: I have an entirely different notion that I've not yet been able to write up. I felt that if Dean didn't know what was in the works when Nixon out him on the deal because it was taking too much time from Ehrlichman, he is what I think he is not. Not later than that February date I don't recall, he had to be suspicious. I think that once it was decided he was to have the notable role of taking GL's heat, it was also necessary, especially for paranoids, to learn all that he knew. GL couldn't have the Nazi Mafia pump him because that would have blown the whole thing. He had ironpuss come in to overhear enough, and he controlled the conversation, so he knew when what was enough. It was part of framing Dean, who was vulnerable.

The incredible thing, in some way more than all others, is that the Nixon rebuttal witness have confirmed close to 100% of what Dean said, including on tape. They have their own meanings for words, so their problem is simplified.

You should be fascinated by the Helms/Cushman testimony, esp. Cushman. None of the significant was sought by counsel. It was all blundered into after he had been led around it with some skill. Neither NBC nor CBE-TV evening news even noted it. I'll be curious to see what the papers do.

I keep busy. I've written a fair amount, usually early a.m. But because there is real significance in some of the past two days' stuff, I've been doing it in arbitrary pieces to be woven together later. Called Counterattack (Subtitle, The Turning of the Screw) (That a pub, son, a joke.) But the time of his counterattack was quite visible. Some of the stunts and mechanics were not, so that is why I'm trying to get it down. Thanks and best,

7/25/73--real quick note on Ehrlichman testimony. He's been blowing my mind with his outright facsism and his pride in it, but he really just blew my mind with what he had to say about Hoover and FBI, with respect to the Hoover letter to Kroegh. I'm sure you caught it, and I'm sure you realized that E. was confirming exactly what you have discovered about Hoover's methods with the WC, i.e., that if he wanted to cover-up, he'd send over worthless material in response to a request, but send globs of it so that the volume would be overwhelming, even if the inquiry wasn't answered. I'll look for this in NYT transcript tomorrow. Hope you got it on tape. Where you deal with Hoover's treatment of WC in future writing you plan to do, I really think it would enormously increase the credibility of what you say by quoting E. HR

7/25/73--another note during a brief recess. I've been thinking a lot about Nixon's self-bugging and his behavior, assuming that Nixon would be reluctant to get on tape evidence which would implicate him. I've been wondering if the bugging of the White House accounts, at least in part, for Nixon's spending so much time at Camp David. It would be interesting to note just when he went there and who he met with there. Off-hand, I recall he sent Dean there to write his "report," which might have been for the purpose of keeping him out of the oval office, or something like that. If I recall correctly, didn't Nixon meet with Ehr. & Hald. at C.D. immediately before they resigned? Let me broaden my concept--does the self-bugging account for Nixon spending so littel time at the WH? I recall other things happening at the Western Rip-Off, and San Clemente as well. It also seems rather apparent to me that Nixon used his self-bugs to trap others, such as Dean. Your thoughts?

7/30/73--Haldeman in his statement today corroborated the last line in my second note of 7/25. He said that in the 3/21 meeting with Dean, Nixon was asking leading questions to "find out what Dean was getting at" or words to that effect. Haldeman added that this was something the Pres. often did when he was seeking a "final determination." If this is not an obvious effort to trap people who don't know they're being recorded, then I don't know what is.