

Highlights Of Evidence

Washington

Following are highlights of more than 4000 pages of evidence assembled for the House Judiciary Committee's inquiry into the possible impeachment of President Nixon and made public by the committee yesterday.

Involvement of the President

Although many of the documents and much of the testimony collected by committee lawyers have been culled from previously published material and contain no major surprises, the committee obtained a recording of a June 30, 1972, White House meeting in which Mr. Nixon expressed his fear that "more stuff" would come to light about the break-in at the Watergate two weeks earlier. "It may not," the President said. "But there is always the risk."

Genesis of the Watergate coverup

Shortly after the June 17, 1972, break-in, according to an affidavit obtained by the committee, the White House recalled an internal telephone directory and reissued a new volume — minus a listing for E. Howard Hunt Jr., the former White House consultant who helped organize the Watergate burglary.

White House control of 1972 campaign

A transcript of a recorded April, 1972, campaign strategy session involving Mr. Nixon, H. R. Haldeman and John N. Mitchell indicates that the President's relish for political details and tactics remained undiminished despite his assertions that, because of his China and Russia initiatives, the 1972 campaign was the first in which he had removed himself from the decision-making process.

Two memorandums from Gordon C. Strachan to Haldeman, then chief of the White House staff, show that in early 1972 Haldeman, contrary to his previous testimony, exerted authority over virtually every aspect of the President's re-election campaign, from finances to publicity to "programming" attacks on Mr. Nixon's Democratic opponents.

The President's impeachment defense

A rebuttal given the Judiciary Committee by special presidential counsel James D. St. Clair amounts to a limited defense of the potential charges against him, focusing on the accusation that he authorized "hush money" payments to the original Watergate defendants. The rebuttal ignores many of the larger questions raised in the other seven volumes of evidence, including the implication that Mr. Nixon himself was a participant in the Watergate cover-up.

Blackmail of the White House

A portion of the Watergate Grand Jury testimony by Hunt, obtained from the special prosecutor by the Judiciary Committee, contains Hunt's first admission that his demand for \$120,000 in "hush money" was accompanied by a threat to talk about "seamy things" he had done for the White House, unless it were paid. Hunt had previously contended that he had had no intention of "blackmailing" the Nixon Administration when he asked for the money.

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