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Post's 3/16/73 WG coverage all on Nixon's 3/15 press conference. It is not possible for me to remember any President who lied as blatantly and came as close as possible to never telling the truth in such a long comment. Three questions responded to. It is incredible. If he isn't nailed on these things -ugh. No administration failed to exercise executive privilege? Ever heard of Dwight Eisenhower and Sherman Adams, who testified. His is the most forthcoming in history? Is that why for the first time members of Congress have had to sue in an effort to get information? I know of no such privilege except on policy and decision matters and I am certain there is none in any criminal investigation, which is what WG is. This would mean that crime in the White House is perpetually protected. Raw files not in issue but he pretends these are the only files Gray gave committee. How "raw" can it be when it is the direct quotation of his personal lawyer? How does he get executive privilege in acting as lawyer for staff members? They have no privilege in FBI interviews in a criminal investigation. Meanwhile Gray, who is among the more deserving of the position, is hoist on Kleindienst's petard. It was the Lyin-hearted who first offered the Senate the files, not Gray. Now all of this is pretty risky. There is always the chance, if slight, that some major paper will do what NBC News did with Ziegeler's lies, take Richard the First's apart. Either he is really nuts or he has so deep an involvement that can come out he feels he has no choice. Not even his spectacular arrogance could account for such undeviating and total falsification of the public in public. HW 3/16/73

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Post published transcripts, as I presume Times did.