

When the sun came out after lunch + played hookey from an growing stack of things I don't want to do, a few I do, and went out to gather more, no, not faggots: roots! Burn 'em in the fireplace, no less, those not too thick to chew with the mower. Felt so good I spent the rest of the p.m. ~~xxx~~ over-doing it with the stone-picking bit. Now, can you imagine a better lift than having Hoppe with the Gospel According to St. Montius and Baker with the Titcomb Creep correspondence to lift the spirits and sooth the aches? That is what I slumped into a chair to read. Then Je asked, seriously, "is it customary or established procedure...to be "preceeded by the colors" inside the White House?" With only a slight exaggeration I am regarded as an expert. My expertise with regard to the White House and social matters is restricted to election years. Then it is not de regeur to say "preceeded by the colors". The correct form is "preceeded by the coloreds". Aside from this my expertise is limited to having seen the superspectacular described by Ripley, NYT 3/19/73. We were spared the full impact of this innovation by our not having color, living or dead. In black-and-white it was shocker enough. There were GL leader and doters (none meeting statistical prerequisites of dosage), looking solmen and stright ahead (i.e. full camera) while this flat thing came right up out of nowhere, not a wrinkle in it, to backdrop them. However, if my hopes were to come to anything, GL would need all the help he could get, and the flag behind him would be less troubling than what I'd prefer there....No, I've never heard of the colors preceeding anything in the WH except tropps of one kind or another. I'm not at all sure the bands do this, but I could expect they miht. All Presidents have a flag convenient in a corner where it can just by accident be in any picture that might be taken....I'm surprised you think it unusual that a reformed criminal is honored in the WH. Except in the being a little of an outcast because he has reformed or at least gives that impression, Haggard should have been right at home and vice versa. Don't you think you are being a little uppity? Can there be only crooks and pre-reform criminals in the hallowed place? I think this is a fine example, if I can attempt to be perfectly clear, of GL's true egalitarianism...There was an ancient and honored historical precedent you failed to mark. The subhead begins, "Eat Cake". Just because there are no overloaded tumbrils creaking their way through the grounds (at least not on TV with that giant rising flag behind them), you should not assume that GL is insensitive to history and the obligations that fall on his shoulders that are only a little narrower than his view and mind. It is in precedent, "Let 'em eat cake" and, faithful to the spirit of the past, he serves it. If Ripley is right, before the chicken. (Obvious Devil's Food and the fowl is Coule Diablo.) ...I heard the ampuancement about the staffers being sent to the grand jury by special WH helicopter. But not to the Senate. Economy wave, not executive privelege is the real reason.

GL doesn't believe in wasting fuel and tying up expensive equipment. Except for long trips and AFs 1-100, then for nothing less than 1000 miles+ (Key Biscayne). Besides, didn't you notice that with only 17 he's, asked for 17 new helicopters? Can't keep them tied up with the whole damned staff about to go half-way to the Senate going to the Grand Jury... They feel the GOP pressures, not the public. (I'm a diehard.) They have to make a gesture. Besides, do you think Dutiful Baker (aka Dirksen's True Son-in-law) hasn't told him what to expect? There will be a cool front, but I think that on the back of the neck it may be getting a little hot. ... I met my patriotic obligations and watched and listened as GL went into may things to his everlasting glory, like how he brought the prisoners how erect, before he skirted around the mess he had made to tell us that he is ~~making it in~~ encasing it in cast-iron. Or, now that, alone and but little assisted, he has raised prices to their highest level yet, he is doing his level best to keep them there. I grow increasingly fascinated with his face and his arduous labor in the use of it. For expression, that is. He has gotten to where he can move all of it except the eyebrows. No matter how he wrinkles, smiles, gestures, emphasizes or whatever else he does, they are fixed and unmoving. As STM East pointed out, each exposure they look more like Ferrie's, that natural. I wonder if the makeup is that heavy. I've been developing a theory that he is developing another hangup, over not being what he considers pretty. HW 3/30/73