

Nixon-Psychological Dr. Bernard C. Meyer's letter, NYTimes 1/22/74

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At last the shrinks have caught up with us. In saying there is no authentic Nixon self, Dr. Meyer is saying what we have been saying, that Nixon is a copier and an improviser. ("... decks himself out in the shreds and patches of other personalities and thinks and ~~acts~~ talks 'as if' he were they," hence "As If" personality. He can't mimic them so he takes their works and smirks as he delivers them, which is less than identically what Dr. M. says. He also reports conscious use of personalities "deGaulle and Churchill.

It would have been helpful if Dr. M had carried this back to the pre-Presidential Nixon. He also copied there, in the election style beginning with his first; in his Un-American Committee record, copying Dies, etc. Or, Dr. M fails to draw all the possible conclusions.

One that should be studied is how an "As If" can get to be President.

Is this not a professional way of saying that we have a madman as President, allowing for argument over definition of "mad?"

Funny feeling, paper seven hours late! Gives time for attacking stack on desk, of which this is part. Fascinated when first came.