

18 Dec 73 (1)

Ervin committee (WH tapes and documents) - Ervin committee votes "unanimously" (Baker, Burney, Montoya not present) to subpoena tapes and documents of at least 200 conversations between Nixon and WH and campaign advisers relating to Watergate; Dash tells reporters subpoenas probably will be served tomorrow, and that if Nixon lawyers refuse to accept the subpoenas the committee will attempt to serve Nixon personally.

SFC 19 Dec 73 [UPI]

Nixon (improvements made at San Clemente, Key Biscayne) - GAO auditors, in 99-page report, suggest that Nixon should have paid personally for some of the federally financed work done at San Clemente and Key Biscayne. "[The report] disclosed that Mr. Nixon himself, his White House aides, ... Rebozo, his lawyer and his architect were involved in ordering or approving many of the projects that presidential spokesmen said previously were done at Secret Service request. Nowhere in the report did the GAO suggest that Mr. Nixon now be billed for any work already paid for by the government." See story for details of various improvements.

SFC 19 Dec 73 [AP]

Nixon (California income tax) - Kenneth Clawson says Nixon "can't remember" if he paid any California income taxes ~~when~~ ~~hezz~~ during the period of 1946-60, and that WH officials have no intention of searching records to determine whether or not he did.

SFC 19 Dec 73 [UPI]

Impeachment - Republicans on House Judiciary Committee call for a timetable for investigation of grounds for possible impeachment. Rep. Peter Rodino, committee chairman, "has turned aside all criticism of the pace of the investigation by declaring that no decisions about how it is to be conducted can be made until the special counsel is on the job."

SFC 19 Dec 73 [AP]

Dita Beard - "The Watergate special prosecutor has decided not to call Dita Beard as a witness before the Watergate

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grand jury, following two psychiatric examinations [of her].
.... The psychiatric examinations became known [today] when
... Judge Sirica ... unsealed a 'stipulation and order' that
was filed by the special prosecutor's office last month."
Story gives no dates for the psychiatrists' examinations,
and no date for decision not to call her. (Jaworski was
sworn in 5 Nov.) Story is unclear but seems to imply that
only two doctors were involved, one appointed by the court
at Jaworski's request and the other selected by Mrs. Beard;
no names are given. "Sources close to the investigation"
say the psychiatrist appointed by the court has concluded that
Mrs. Beard would not testify and "generally supported the
contention of Mrs. Beard's psychiatrist that she would not be
a valuable witness."

Mrs. Beard has lived in Denver since (March?) 1972 and is
still employed by ITT in "sales research."

SFC 19 Dec 73 [NYT]

"White House Press Corps 'Grounded'" - "Citing the energy
crisis, President Nixon has ordered aides not to arrange a
charter flight for White House correspondents who want to
cover his planned post-Christmas vacation in Florida."
In the past such charters have been arranged for by the WH,
with news organizations paying for the charter.

Warren says Nixon has not decided how he will travel to
Florida; may take a train but is also considering other
means, presumably including use of a smaller plane than
Air Force One.

SFC 19 Dec 73 [AP]

Nixon, travel to Florida - see entry above.

(Chotiner)

Election violations/- GAO says it has found three apparent
violations of law in payments by CREP to two journalists
serving as campaign spies, Seymour Freidin and Lucianne
Goldberg; payments made by Chotiner totalled about \$35,000.

SFC 19 Dec 73 [AP]

Agnew asks three-judge panel, which will make recommendations
in disciplinary proceedings, to suspend rather than disbar
him.

SFC 19 Dec 73 [AP]

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Nixon-Hughes (contribution) - Richard C. Danner gives testimony under oath to Ervin committee staff on Hughes contribution. See entries 15, 16 Jan 74.

Colson - See entry 16 Jan 75, Colson (Nixon-Burger), on Colson's version of conversation with Nixon late this evening on the subject of WH tapes. See also entry today, Ervin committee (WH tapes and documents).

In another (?) conversation with Nixon 18 Dec 73, Colson says 7 Feb 75, Nixon "talked seriously about resigning." See entry 7 Feb 75, Colson, in television intv

Nixon (resignation?) - See entry above, Colson.