

17 Apr 74 (1)

Ehrlichman - LATimes, undated story: "close friends of ... Ehrlichman say he has privately expressed disenchantment with [Nixon] and has told them he is considering reaching a settlement on the Watergate-related charges ~~against~~ pending against him. Ehrlichman also reportedly has indicated to friends that he has had something of a falling out with ... Haldeman....

Ehrlichman is said to have told friends that he resigned after reaching what he thought was an understanding that Nixon would follow up his and Haldeman's resignations with a complete statement and admission of everything Nixon knew about the Watergate case and its handling; is reported to be extremely disappointed with Nixon's failure to follow through.

Ehrlichman's friends "say he has told them he was shocked and surprised by the revelation of the existence of the tape recordings of White House conversations. Ehrlichman is said to have told friends that he resents that Haldeman never told him of the existence of the tapes.

"He is also said to have expressed his own conviction that the 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ -minute gap on one tape, relating to a conversation between Haldeman and the President, was deliberately caused."

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Haldeman (Ehrlichman) - See entry, Ehrlichman, LATimes

Nixon (Ehrlichman) " " "

Tapes (18 $\frac{1}{2}$ minute gap) " " "

Ehrlichman, in prepared statement, says LATimes story quoting his friends is "false in tone and content." (See entry, Ehrlichman, LATimes ...) The writer of the story, Kenneth Reich, says LATimes is standing by it. "We had good reason to print this story. John Ehrlichman was given an opportunity to respond to it before it appeared, and he declined to do so."

Check clipping for comparison of Ehrlichman's "denial" of specific points, given in earlier entry on Ehrlichman. His comments, as paraphrased by AP, do not appear to be clear-cut denial.

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- Ehrlichman says in his statement that he has been named as a defendant in 14 civil suits in the past year, and that so far six of these cases have been dismissed.