

30 Apr 74 (C)

Butterfield leaves Washington to tour aircraft factories on West Coast. NYT: "Last fall, when some tapes were found to have gaps and others could not be found, Mr. Butterfield also left Washington to attend an aviation meeting in Auckland, New Zealand." (No date.) (Butterfield testified before Ervin committee 16 Jul 73, was scheduled to leave 17 Jul for trade conference in Soviet Union.)

NYT 1 May 74 [Special to NYT]

Nixon (physical, mental health) - See story by Robert C. Toth, which quotes unnamed psychiatrist (on recent displays of temper, etc.), unnamed Presidential aides, Dr. Tkach, and "Presidential physician Chester L. Ward." "[Tkach said] it is 'just impossible to guess' whether the combination of continued pressure on Mr. Nixon, plus his increasing age - he is now 61 years old - will cause a greater frequency in minor illnesses in the President." "'Stress is not measurable,' [Dr. Tkach said]. 'Some people under stress get sick, others do not.'"

SFC 30 Apr 74 [LATimes, Robert C. Toth] - filed Nixon.

Ehrlichman - Nixon letter to Judge Gesell (who will preside at the trial of Ehrlichman and five others, set for 17 Jun) is placed under seal today by Gesell; presumably letter was written 29 Apr ~~er-today~~, and is in response to an order issued "last month"\*by Gesell, who told special prosecutor's office to submit to the court\*\*any evidence of Nixon's involvement in or knowledge of Fielding break-in.

In his letter, "according to some who [know] about it," Nixon says that those who broke into Dr. Fielding's office did so under his delegated authority. NYT: "Mr. Nixon said he made the full delegation of his presidential powers in an attempt to stem a series of newspaper leaks that he perceived to be a threat to national security and foreign relations." "In his previous public statements, Mr. Nixon has not discussed the Plumbers in terms of his delegation of presidential authority. He came close to that kind of assessment on May 22, 1973, [when he said] .... 'I must and do assume responsibility for such actions despite the fact that I, at no time, approved or had knowledge of them.'"

[Cont'd

\*19 Apr - \*\*by 29 Apr (SFC 20 Apr 74)

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NYT: "With the submission of Mr. Nixon's letter, some lawyers said, the defendants have greatly improved their chances of successfully arguing that their intent was to follow the President's instructions on a matter of national security. Other lawyers suggested that the President's letter would have minimal impact on the trial because of the intent of the Watergate prosecutors to focus on what they believe to be the goal of the defendants involved in the burglary - to get politically damaging information about Ellsberg for later use." Letter leaked (?) 13 May 74.

SFC 14 May 74 [NYT]

- Ehrlichman files in U.S. District Court, WX, "a 'narrative account' of the formation of the plumbers unit, 'going to the question of the President's instructions, authorization and approval, as part of his attempt to obtain classified national security documents for his defense." In court papers Ehrlichman says that Nixon twice "indicated his after-the fact approval" (18 Apr 73? and early May 73) of the Fielding break-in, and ordered Petersen to make no investigation of it.

SFC 1 May 73 [UPI]

Kissinger (Krogh) - Ehrlichman in affidavit (see entry, Ehrlichman files ... ) says Kissinger was present at San Clemente 14, 15 Jul 71 when Nixon appointed Krogh to be co-director of plumbers unit. Kissinger testified under oath at Senate confirmation hearings Sep 73 that he "did not know of the existence of the plumbers group, by that or any other name "

SFC 1 May 73 [UPI]

Nixon (taxes) - Administration official, who refuses to be identified, says Nixon has paid first installment of back taxes and that it includes "most of" the entire \$467,000 bill in tax and interest for 1969-72. Warren and IRS refuse

SFC 1 May 74 [UPI]

to discuss matter.

- Deadline for payment 3 May.

WXP 1 May 74

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Tape transcripts - See clippings for account of WH maneuvers, and timing, in WH release of the transcripts to the press.

SFC 1 May 74 [WXP]

SFC 1 May 74 [NYT]

Legal argument accompanying transcripts, by St. Clair - text.

NYT 1 May 74, p. 36

(30 Apr 74) AMP

Ⓐ- See entry 20 May 74, Ehrlichman et al ...