

e of Representatives

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WATERGATE CHRONOLOGY

(Compiled by
Americans for Democratic Action)

1969

January 20: Richard Nixon becomes President. John N. Mitchell is named attorney general. H. R. Haldeman becomes White House chief of staff, and Ronald Ziegler is appointed Nixon's press secretary.

March: Nixon begins secret bombing of Cambodia.

May: Nixon authorizes illegal "national security" wiretaps on 17 reporters and high government officials after leaks of information on SALT and the bombing of Cambodia.

August: At the request of the White House, the I.R.S. sets up an "Activist Organizations Group," later renamed the "Special Service Group," to crack down on "extremist organizations."

August 1: Justice Department initiates anti-trust proceedings against ITT in connection with an ITT-Hartford merger.

November: John D. Ehrlichman becomes Nixon's chief domestic advisor.

1970

April 30: Nixon announces invasion of Cambodia. Though U.S. air strikes begun in March 1969 total 3,875 by May 1970, Nixon tells the American people the U.S. has not moved against enemy sanctuaries in Cambodia for five years.

July: John Dean III becomes counsel to the President.

July 23: Nixon approves the "Huston Plan" calling for use of illegal methods to gather intelligence on demonstrators and domestic radicals. Five days later, Nixon allegedly rescinds his approval.

September: Pentagon allegedly begins pilfering of secret National Security Council documents, a project which continues through December 1971.

December: White House forms "Inter-agency Evaluation Committee" to serve essentially the same purpose as the Huston Plan, which apparently never went into effect.

December 16: Dairy industry group writes letter promising a \$2 million contribution to the 1972 Republican campaign in return for curbs on dairy imports.

December 31: Nixon places import quotas on certain dairy products.

1971

January 19: Herbert Kalmbach, Nixon's personal attorney, becomes unofficial fund raiser for Nixon's re-election campaign and begins soliciting illegal corporate contributions.

February: "National security" wiretaps authorized by Nixon in May 1969, and later declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, are terminated.

Spring: Nixon begins secret taping of all

Oval Office conversations, ostensibly for historic purposes.

March 12: Agriculture Department announces decision not to raise milk price supports.

March 25: Shortly after a meeting between Nixon and milk producers, Agriculture Department announces milk price support increase. Nixon campaign contributions from the dairy industry—eventually totaling at least \$427,500—are forthcoming.

May 3-5: May Day—Over 13,000 anti-war demonstrators are illegally arrested in Washington, D.C.

June: Pentagon Papers are published in the *New York Times* after being leaked by Daniel Ellsberg. Nixon directs creation of the White House "Plumbers" group, headed by Egil Krogh, Jr., and David Young, to investigate the matter. Ehrlichman hires E. Howard Hunt and G. Gordon Liddy to investigate Daniel Ellsberg.

June 25: Dita Beard, an ITT lobbyist, writes memo linking ITT pledge of \$400,000 for the Republican convention in San Diego to favorable settlement of the anti-trust case against ITT.

July 23: At Ehrlichman's request, C.I.A. Deputy Director Robert Cushman meets with Hunt to provide logistical aid and equipment for Hunt's "highly sensitive mission."

July 31: ITT anti-trust case is settled favorably for ITT.

August: Nixon approves Hunt-Liddy trip to California to develop information on Daniel Ellsberg.

August 5: ITT deposits \$100,000 in the bank account of the G.O.P. Convention Bureau in San Diego.

September: Hired by presidential aides, campaign saboteur Donald Segretti begins recruiting Nixon supporters to act as spies in Democratic campaigns and to perform "dirty tricks."

September 3: Ellsberg's psychiatric records are burglarized from Dr. Louis Fielding's office in Los Angeles. The burglary is financed with Nixon campaign money.

October 15: Bill Graham Day, Charlotte, N.C.—The Secret Service is involved in widespread violations of civil liberties at observances honoring Billy Graham.

December: Liddy becomes general counsel to the Committee to Re-elect the President (CREEP) and begins developing an intelligence plan for use in the campaign.

1972

January 27: Mitchell, Dean, Deputy Director of CREEP Jeb Magruder, and Liddy meet to discuss Liddy's proposed \$1 million intelligence plan. Liddy is told to develop a "more reasonable plan."

February 4: Mitchell, Dean and Magruder consider and reject a second Liddy intelligence plan, but instruct Liddy to continue his planning.

February 18: Maurice Stans becomes fi-

nanial chairman of CREEP and immediately begins stepped-up fund-raising efforts.

February 29: Columnist Jack Anderson breaks story linking favorable settlement of the ITT anti-trust case to Nixon campaign contribution and implicating Mitchell and Kleindienst in the affair.

March: White House aide Charles Colson writes memo to Haldeman warning of evidence which could "directly involve" the President in the ITT scandal.

March 1: Mitchell resigns as attorney general to become director of CREEP.

March 29, 30: Mitchell, Mitchell's aide Fred LaBue and Magruder meet in Key Biscayne, Florida, and Liddy's third plan calling for illegal entry into and wiretapping of the D.N.C.'s Watergate headquarters is approved.

April 3: Gulf Resources President Robert Allen contributes \$100,000 to Nixon's campaign, and the E.P.A. subsequently abandons a pollution case against Gulf's principal mining and smelting company.

April 5: Hugh Sloan, CREEP finance committee treasurer, receives the Allen contribution after it has been "laundered" in Mexico and gives some of this money to Watergate conspirator G. Gordon Liddy.

April 7: New disclosure law requiring strict financial reporting of campaign contributions takes effect. CREEP has collected \$19.9 million in legal and illegal campaign contributions prior to this date.

April 10: Financier Robert Vesco, under investigation by the S.E.C. for stock fraud, makes a secret \$200,000 contribution to the Nixon campaign.

May 27: First Watergate break-in and wire-tapping of the D.N.C.'s headquarters takes place undetected. Magruder, according to his own testimony, begins supplying Mitchell with copies of information obtained from the wiretaps.

June 9: Congress confirms Richard G. Kleindienst as attorney general.

June 17: Second Watergate break-in occurs, and five agents of the Nixon campaign are arrested by the Washington, D.C. police.

June 19: Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler labels Watergate break-in "a third-rate burglary."

June 20: Nixon, Haldeman and Ehrlichman, according to the Haldeman memo, meet to plan a "PR offensive" to divert attention from Watergate. During a telephone conversation with Nixon, Mitchell, according to his own testimony, tells the President that only the five men arrested at Watergate were involved.

June 22: Referring to the Watergate break-in, Nixon says the White House has had "no involvement whatever" in the matter.

June 23: At Nixon's request, White House aides Haldeman and Ehrlichman meet with C.I.A. officials Helms and Walters to discuss limiting the F.B.I.'s Watergate investigation.

June 28: Acting F.B.I. head L. Patrick Gray III, at a meeting with Dean and Ehrlichman, is given Hunt documents which Dean labels "political dynamite" and says "show" see the light of day.

June 29: Nixon's "back begins" Water-