

19 Nov 74 ①

Nixon (medical panel) - Miller files formal "interim report" with Sirica which says Nixon consents to a physical examination by the medical panel and a review of his medical records.

This consent is conditioned on the fact that the examination and consultation with his doctors "will be conducted at absolutely no cost or expense" to Nixon. Sirica has already said (entry 13 Nov) that the government would pay for the panel's work.

SFC 20 Nov 74 [UPI]

Cover-up trial - In one of the tapes heard today (14 Apr 73, Nixon-Haldeman-Ehrlichman) Nixon says he will give "full pardons" to [NYT:] "various Watergate participants before he left the Presidency Mr. Nixon's remark appeared to refer to the seven who took part in the break-in ... and who by April had been convicted and sentenced. Conceivably, though, the remark referred to others as well." Story gives some quotations from the prosecution's transcript of the tape, and says Nixon's statement to Ehrlichman that "You get them full pardons" was not included in the transcripts Nixon made public last spring (30 Apr 74).

NYT 20 Nov 74, Lesley Oelsner

- On pardons, see entry, Bittman (Hunt memo).

Bittman (Hunt memo) - Bittman, at a hearing after the jury has been dismissed for the day, testifies about a memo written by Hunt and his wife, 14 Nov 72, reminding the White House of its "commitments," which include pardons. NYT: [Hunt] ... asked him 'specifically,' [Bittman] testified, to place the envelope [containing the memo] in a file of personal correspondence that Mr. Hunt had already given ^{AME-A} [Bittman] for safekeeping." This suggests Hunt gave Bittman the file before Mrs. Hunt's death; see entry, Bittman, 20 Nov 74, on report that this file contained personal correspondence between Hunt and an unnamed woman.

WXP: "Bittman said that Hunt, or perhaps Mrs. Hunt, handed him the memo in a closed envelope 'sometime in mid-November of 1972' and told him 'to put it in my office safe for possible delivery to [Colson] Hunt first alluded to

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the memo in a phone conversation with Colson on Nov. 13, 1972, when Hunt expressed his growing chagrin over the slow pace of payments to the Watergate defendants."

NYT 20 Nov 74, David E. Rosenbaum

WXP 20 Nov 74, George Lardner Jr.

Ehrlichman - Frates today "disclosed the existence of [a] document that the prosecution said it had been seeking, the report Mr. Ehrlichman made to Mr. Nixon on April 14, 1973. To the obvious surprise of the prosecutors, Mr. Ehrlichman then stood up and said that the document was at the White House, in one of the boxes of his files." No further details. *Am. B.*

NYT 20 Nov 74, Lesley Oelsner

14 Apr 73 - Nixon tape. See entry, Cover-up trial.

14 Apr 73 - Ehrlichman report to Nixon. See entry, Ehrlichman, Frates today

Pardons - See entry, Cover-up trial; entry, Bittman (Hunt memo).

Hunt - See entry, Bittman (Hunt memo); see entry, Nixon (Hunt, Colson).

Nixon (Hunt, Colson) - Mary McGrory on tape of 8 Jan 73, in which Nixon and Colson discuss clemency for Hunt: "In Judge Sirica's courtroom, the President's voice, in the January 8 conversation with Colson, is heard plainly. The usual nervous deference he gives this terrifying subordinate is audible. Colson does not raise the forbidden subject of clemency. Nixon does. When he resigned, special prosecutor Leon Jaworski promised us the trial would tell us everything about Watergate. Will it answer the central question, which is what did Hunt and Colson have on Nixon?"

See column, in which the author suggests Nixon deceived both Ehrlichman and Haldeman about his discussion with Colson, by "feigning ignorance about rumors of a Hunt pardon."

SFC 20 Nov 74, Mary McGrory [WX-Star-News]

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Colson - See entry, Bittman (Hunt memo); see entry, Nixon (Hunt, Colson).

Nixon (tapes, papers - custody) - "A House subcommittee" approves bill by John Brademas, similar to one passed by the Senate "six weeks ago" to protect and assure public access to Nixon's tapes and papers. Brademas bill will go to full House Administration Committee 21 Nov. It directs the GSA to keep possession of all the material and forbids destruction of any without congressional approval; ~~bill also~~ creates a commission to make recommendations by 31 Mar 75 for permanent public policy on the question of ownership; directs the GSA to draw up regulations, which could be vetoed by either House, providing public access to the materials. See entry 11 Nov 74, Nixon, tapes and documents, WXP 20 Nov 74, Richard L. Lyons Congress.

Nixon (as aberration in American political system?) - Quotation from book by Marcus Raskin, "Notes on the Old System," included in review by Christopher Lehmann-Haupt: "To forestall a political revolutionary consciousness, it was necessary to develop a theory that Mr. Nixon and his activities were distinguishable from the system's usual operations. In other words, Mr. Nixon had to be perceived by a majority in Congress and the media, as well as by the American audience, as a pathological occupant of the Presidency." Reviewer goes on to say, "In order for the system to remain intact, its most visible exemplar had to be removed." Reviewer makes clear that Raskin "believes ... that neither Richard Nixon nor Watergate was an aberration in the working of the American political system."

NYT 20 Nov 74, review by Christopher Lehmann-Haupt of book by Marcus Raskin, "Notes on the Old System."

(19 Nov 74) AMP

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