

9 Jan 75 ①

"Nixon at 62: Virtual Exile, Hard Times."

Story deals with preliminary dismantling of facilities provided during transition period (due to end 9 Feb); Nixon's health (separate entry); financial problems; Korff press conference (separate entry).

Ziegler will be leaving in February (no date) to begin six-month lecture tour. Lt. Col. Jack Brennan, "Nixon's chief of staff," is to return to Marine headquarters in WX. "Nixon will be left with a small staff of secretaries and Secret Service security officers."

WXP 10 Jan 75, Leroy F. Aarons

Nixon (television? movie?) - William Sarnoff, Irving Lazar and Frank Wells spend about two hours with Nixon today. Sarnoff is chairman of Warner Paperback Library, which has agreed to pay Nixon \$2.5 million for book rights to his memoirs; Lazar is Nixon's literary agent; Wells is head of Warner Communications film and TV division. "[The] original deal ... included no motion picture or television rights. But that was discussed by Mr. Nixon and Wells [today]" ^{AMP?} ⑤
- Nixon (photo) - Nixon and Wells at some point during the visit "strolled the grounds of San Clemente," and a photo of this is made with a telescopic lens by Tony Korody, a photographer "who had kept a 28-day vigil on the beach below before being rewarded with a glimpse" of Nixon. "Other observers watching from a different angle" tell Korody later that Nixon fell twice, trying to get out of camera range; Korody himself does not see this.
- Nixon (book) - "Neither Lazar nor Sarnoff feels that Mr. Nixon will be handicapped or delayed [in the writing of his memoirs] by his lack of access to tapes and files of his administration, which are still impounded [in WX] under court order in a custody battle with Congress. That assertion is bound to dismay Mr. Nixon's lawyer, Herbert J. Miller, who has been arguing that his client cannot fulfill the terms of his lucrative book contract without these records. 'He doesn't depend on that stuff (and can go ahead) if he never gets it,' Lazar insisted."

Story, which does not appear until 19 Jan, is apparently based on intv with Lazar.

WXP 19 Jan 75, Maxine Cheshire

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Nixon (surprise party) - Rebozo, Abplanalp, three others fly to San Clemente "from various parts of the country" to surprise Nixon with a birthday party. The three others are Victor Lasky, who was writing a book about Nixon at the time he resigned and is still working on it; Sol (Cye) Mandel, former owner of a favorite Nixon restaurant in Miami; William Griffin, Abplanalp's lawyer.

No reason is given for inclusion of Griffin in the group. Abplanalp said 8 Dec 74 that he and Rebozo were considering formation of nonprofit foundation to help pay for Nixon's properties at Key Biscayne and San Clemente (entry 8 Dec 74, Nixon properties). Attorney for Cotton Estate says 13 Jan that on the following day he will receive a certified check as final payment on mortgage on San Clemente property (entry 13 Jan, Nixon, San Clemente mortgage paid off).

Party lasts from 4 to 9 p.m. Story says Rebozo, and Abplanalp and Mrs. Nixon "cooked up the surprise." Nixon is described as "very frail, his face thin, the nose more prominent," and Mrs. Nixon as "looking better than I have ever seen her, just bubbling. She spends time in the garden." Nixon is described as "vivacious."

"Lasky gave Nixon a blue necktie, which the former President said he would wear on television. It was not clear whether he was serious." See entry, Nixon (television? movie?).

Story does not appear until 17 Jan 75, and appears to be based on intv of Lasky.

SFC 17 Jan 75, Vera Glaser

Rebozo - Jaworski, in intv published by Miami Herald today, says there is not sufficient hard evidence at this time on which prosecutors could make a case strong enough to go to trial against Rebozo, and that he doubts that Rebozo will be prosecuted.

Rebozo says he is "delighted that Jaworski came to the only conclusion any fair-minded person would come to based on the facts. You know that if they had found anything - and they must of checked every one of the charges - they would have hung me."

Story is datelined Miami. If the Herald is a morning paper Rebozo could have seen it before flying to

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[from previous page]

San Clemente. Story on party there (entry, Nixon, surprise party) says Rebozo brought with him a copy of the Herald with this story in it.

WXP 10 Jan 75 [AP]

SFC 10 Jan 75 [AP]

Nixon (health) - "The few friends and associates who have access to him report that he is still struggling back from the emotional and physical nadir of October, when he nearly died from complications of his chronic phlebitis condition. He is still weak, and thin, these individuals report, and his blood pressure fluctuates erratically." But they add, he appears to be out of danger and gaining slowly. Last Friday [3 Jan] ... Nixon for the first time since his illness ventured out of La Casa Pacifica to the adjoining Coast Guard base, where his federally maintained offices are located. Now ... he makes the trip almost daily, walking the few hundred yards and spending two or three hours in his office. He has begun preliminary work on his memoirs with Dr. Frank Gannon, a writer and scholar who worked for him in the White House."

"[Last Christmas] the daughters surprised him with a travelogue of his Middle Eastern trip last June. Reportedly, he enjoyed the film, but said it didn't do justice to the size and enthusiasm of the crowds that greeted him. From scattered reports, it appears that some of Nixon's fondest moments are spent recalling his impact on foreign affairs and the high regard in which he is held overseas."

WXP 10 Jan 75, Leroy F. Aarons

- "[Korff] said [today] that [Nixon's] right leg 'lately has also showed signs of difficulty - I think some swelling.'" Lungren, through a secretary, says he has no comment on Korff's remark [NYT:] "about the previously normal right [leg]. Ziegler says he knows of no problems with this leg."

NYT 10 Jan 75, Special to [NYT]

Nixon (right leg) - See entry, Nixon (health).

Lungren - See entry, Nixon (health).

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Korff, at press conference, "said he had spoken to Mr. Nixon about the Watergate affair and that the former President had 'freely said to me' that 'he made errors in judgment, he was too yielding and, perhaps at times, too compassionate.'"

Korff says he believes Nixon "misused his power" and that Watergate was "wrong, terribly wrong," but that Nixon had committed no crimes.

Nixon was "deeply saddened" by the conviction of Haldeman, Ehrlichman, Mitchell and Mardian, and happy about the release from prison of Dean, Magruder and Kalmbach.

"Korff said that Mr. Nixon, 'with a very benign look,' had stated: 'That is very good to ease the burden of pain in a time of trouble.'"

Korff says Nixon has been unable to obtain his and Mrs. Nixon's personal effects left at the White House, his personal records, "his memorabilia from his entire career," etc. (For WH answer see entry 10 Jan, Nixon, transition funds.) WXP: "Korff and others report that Nixon is burdened by a sense of mistreatment from both Congress and the Ford administration."

On the President Nixon Justice Fund, Korff says it paid \$80,000 on 18 Dec to cover part of Nixon's legal fees and that on 18 Jan a payment of \$30,000 is due. "Approximately \$10,000 came in Christmas gifts to San Clemente and another \$5,000 to \$6,000 came into our Washington office. We hope the remainder will come after this press conference." AMP - 8

NYT 10 Jan 75, Special to [NYT]

WXP 10 Jan 75, Leroy F. Aarons

Ford calls Nixon to wish him a happy birthday.

NYT 10 Jan 75 [AP]

Nixon "too compassionate." See entry, Korff.

Nixon (return to public life?) - See entry, Korff, press conference; entry, Nixon (health), second paragraph.

Korff says (in WXP paraphrase) that one of Nixon's repeated hopes is to play a role, perhaps as a lecturer in the U.S. and overseas, as an independent adviser in the field of foreign affairs.

WXP 9 Jan 75, Leroy F. Aarons

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Billy Graham says at news conference in Dallas that he has spoken to Nixon twice since he resigned; "He is a little better physically and mentally. But the pressures of the last months almost crushed him. He is not a well man - even on the telephone, that is apparent."

"The Nixon on those tapes was not the Nixon we all knew. Many of his other friends said they hardly recognized his tone of voice. Those of us who knew him don't know what happened." See similar statement by Rebozo, entry 3 Nov 74; also by Graham, WXP 16 Aug 74, filed Nixon.

No date is given for this Graham news conference.

WXP 10 Jan 75 [Religious News Service]

Dean, Kalmbach, Magruder - Tom Wicker's reaction to their sentences and release from prison, comparing these with treatment of "ordinary" convicts.

NYT 10 Jan 75, Tom Wicker

Abplanalp - See entry, Nixon (surprise party)
Rebozo - "
Victor Lasky - "
Sol Mandel - "
William Griffin - "

Ziegler - See entry, "Nixon at 62"
Lt. Col. Jack Brennan - "

William Sarnoff - See entry, Nixon (television? movie?)
Irving Lazar - "
Frank Wells - "

Frank Gannon - See entry, Nixon (health).

Nixon on his errors in judgment in Watergate - See entry, Korff press conference.

Ford-Nixon - Ford calls Nixon because it is his birthday.
SFEEx 6 Jul 75, Helen Thomas [UPI]

(9 Jan 75) AMP

① - Ziegler, in intv 10 Jan, includes ^{Nixon's} "high school papers" in the material held by the WH. Ziegler also complains that WH is not forwarding Nixon's mail, a complaint made by Korff on an earlier occasion (probably not entered in this chronology).

SFC 13 Jan 75 [LATimes, Kenneth Reich and Howard Seelye]

② - On payment for legal fees, see entry 25 Nov 74, Korff says

③ - Maxine Cheshire says Ziegler also includes "old Christmas card lists," but does not say if this was during WXP 28 Jan 75, Maxine Cheshire intv.

④ - This is in general conformity with estimate of recovery given by medical panel - entry 29 Nov 74.

⑤ - See entries, Nixon (television?), 26, 28 Mar 75.