

10 Aug 75 (1)

Nixon (television intv sold) - David Frost announces he has bought the exclusive rights to Nixon's "television memoirs," on behalf of what he calls an "international consortium of broadcasting organizations," none of whom he is willing to name. The amount of payment is not given. ^{AMP-A, M}

In a press release handed to reporters at a "hastily called news conference" in Beverly Hills, Irving Lazar is quoted as saying, "From among the many people wanting to interview the former President, Mr. Nixon chose David Frost because of Mr. Frost's unique and wide-ranging experience." ^{AMP-G, H}

The contract provides for four 90-minute programs. Frost says he plans to begin filming immediately and intends to film 20 separate intvs from which the four programs will be cut; at least one-quarter of the intvs will be devoted to discussion of Watergate. ^{AMP-B} However, the intvs will not be broadcast until after the elections of Nov 76, because "the former President does not wish to intervene in the political debate of the next elections." ^{AMP-M}

Frost: "I should make it clear that the former President has neither requested nor has he received any editorial control - whether in terms of the content or editing of the programs, the use of newsreel footage, or by way of prior knowledge of any of the questions. No subject, including Watergate, has been barred." NYT: "Asked whether Mr. Nixon might be less than candid in discussing the scandal, Mr. Frost said: 'I sense that he's ready to start reflecting on his life and his achievements. I have no reason to believe the ex-President will be less than candid.'" ^{AMP-F}

NYT notes that the contract was signed yesterday evening, "exactly one year after Mr. Nixon resigned the Presidency."

NYT 11 Aug 75 [Special to NYT]

Nixon (health) - David Frost says he spent some time with Nixon yesterday (see entry, Nixon, television intv sold) and found him "physically well.... It was a total contradiction of the ailing man I had pictured."

NYT 11 Aug 75 [Special to NYT]

- See separate entry, same heading.

10 Aug 75 (2)

Nixon (return to public life?) - "The brooding and compulsive late-night telephone calls that once led friends to worry about Nixon's survival have been replaced with a new zest for work on his memoirs and a lively interest in current affairs of state, especially foreign policy developments....

"According to sources who have visited San Clemente lately, however, Nixon, has made a firm decision not to speak out on public affairs until at least after the 1976 election But, says a friend, 'I'd think we'd be hearing a lot more from him, particularly on foreign policy, in 1977.'" AMP-D
- K

SFEx 10 Aug 75, Clark Hoyt, Knight News Service

"Nixon Guilty, Warren Says" - Gerald L. Warren, Nixon's former deputy press secretary, says in televised intv (CBS, Face the Nation) that he believes Nixon was guilty of obstruction of justice, that the tape of 23 Jun 72 "clearly shows" this. "Warren added, however, that he didn't mean to say that Mr. Nixon should be brought into court. He said he was speaking of crime in the context of the impeachment inquiry which was then under way."

SFC 11 Aug 75 [AP]

WXP, reporting on this intv: "Warren said ... that he believed [Nixon] committed 'crimes' while President but that he is still a 'national asset' who ought to travel and speak out on national issues at some later date.... 'I think he has strong views in the field of domestic and foreign affairs and I think he should be heard,' Warren said." AMP-E
- K

WXP 11 Aug 75 [no attribution]

Nixon (health) - Gerald L. Warren (see entry, "Nixon Guilty ... ") says he visited Nixon recently and found him in "excellent spirits, perceptive in his comments, forceful, feeling well and looking well," but ~~that~~ he will probably have to take anti-coagulants for the rest of his life. (WXP)

"[Nixon] is known to be itching to travel overseas, but his physical stamina is still in doubt, and if he should prove well enough for that, he would immediately be confronted by demands that he appear as a witness in the many continuing Watergate-related legal actions." (Time magazine) See entry, Legal actions ... See separate entry,

WXP 11 Aug 75 [no attribution]

Nixon (health).
AMP-I, K

Time magazine 11 Aug 75

10 Aug 75 (3)

Butterfield - According to "Where are they now?" list, SFEx, Butterfield currently is unemployed. WXP says he is now a transportation consultant; no details.

SFEx 10 Aug 75

WXP 10 Aug 75, Potomac magazine section, p. 25

Haldeman (Nixon) - "Haldeman has visited San Clemente several times, yet his relations with Nixon are severely strained. [Nixon] has soured on Bob Haldeman. 'He blames Haldeman for his troubles,' reports one acquaintance. 'He thinks Haldeman used terribly bad judgment.'" A-12-2

Time magazine 11 Aug 75

Watergate figures, present status - See listing:

WXP 10 Aug 75

SFEx 10 Aug 75

Time magazine 11 Aug 75

Nixon (Haldeman) - See entry, Haldeman (Nixon).

Nixon (visitors) - Mitchell; Haldeman (see separate entry); Herb Klein; Dr. John Lungren; former Assistant Secretary, HEW, Patricia Reilly Hitt; Abplanalp, Rebozo.

Time magazine 11 Aug 75

- Mrs. Hitt was vice chairman of board of executive trustees of the Richard Nixon Foundation, before it was dissolved.

SFC 26 Dec 74

Gerald L. Warren - See entry, "Nixon Guilty, Warren Says,"

Legal actions involving Nixon - "Nixon faces more than 30 legal actions in which either he is a defendant in a civil suit, or his testimony is wanted or his lawyers are seeking to protect his tapes and documents."

See entry, Nixon (health), second paragraph

Time magazine 11 Aug 75

Nixon (various legal actions) - See entry, Legal actions ...

10 Aug 75 (4)

Nixon (security) - "Nixon has 33 Secret Service agents assigned to his protection. . He is skittish about security When a news photographer snapped him with a telephoto lens from the distant window of a neighboring house, Nixon changed the route he takes to his office. 'If they can get me with a telephoto lens, they can do the same with a scope on a rifle,' he told aides."

Time magazine 11 Aug 75

Nixon (staff) - Nixon now has five regular staff aides: Jack Brennan; private secretary, Nora Vandersommen; office secretaries Loie Gant and Jo Anne Miller; assistant to Brennan, former Marine Sergeant Carl F. Howell.

Rose Mary Woods remains on Nixon's payroll, working in WX.

Time magazine 11 Aug 75

- Manolo and Fina Sanchez are still with the Nixons.

Nixon (ambassador to China?) - See AMP-K.

Rebozo, Abplanalp - See AMP-M.

(10 Aug 75) AMP ①

① - Frost: "The amount of money involved is confidential.... I can not even give you a ball park figure on the financial arrangements."

② - Compare with conditions involved in earlier negotiations with others: entries under heading, Nixon (television intv?), 18, 28 Jul, 5, 7 Aug 75.

③ - In story which included speculation that Frost was involved in negotiations with Nixon (entry 5 Aug), Lazar is paraphrased as saying that no programs were scheduled to be taped until after the Nov 76 elections "at the earliest," if a contract is signed.

④ - See entry, "Nixon Guilty ...," second paragraph.

⑤ - See entry, Nixon (return to public life?); Nixon, (health)

⑥ - "The networks and the book publishers are treating him as if he were a revered historical figure, not the first president to resign from office."

SFC 11 Aug 75, Mary McGrory

⑦ - "Mr. Nixon's Hollywood agent, Irving Lazar, ... says that the ex-President picked Mr. Frost because of his 'unique and wide-ranging experience.' This explanation scarcely fits the facts. Mr. Frost's experience can best be described as that of a 'news entertainer,' not a journalist with any particular knowledge of Watergate or of Mr. Nixon's career."

For description of Frost's career, see NYT 11 Aug 75, which describes him as "the television personality [and host of] a nightly talk show."

NYTimes 12 Aug 75, editorial

⑧ - See entry 14 Aug 75, Nixon (television intv), for additional comment.

- See also "The Richard Nixon Show," by Charles B. Seib, for recap of maneuvers involved before the deal was closed with Frost.

WKP 18 Aug 75, Charles B. Seib

⑨ - See entry 12 Jul 75, "Nixon Still Too Ill "

(10 Aug 75) AMP ②

① - In the course of the intv it was mentioned that Warren had visited Nixon "in the last week or so."

② - See partial transcript of intv, filed 11 Aug 75. In it, Warren says:

He does not think Nixon should become ambassador to China, should run for elective office, or speak at the next Republican convention; has "a very strong feeling" Nixon will stay out of the 1976 campaign; thinks Nixon, in 1977 after his book is published, should speak on national issues and should travel.

He took a message from Ford to Nixon but will give no details beyond saying it was of Ford's "good wishes, that sort of thing."

Asked for the reason for his visit to Nixon, says, "It was just to see a man that I served in the White House and who I admire very much.... It was a visit between two people who perhaps didn't get to know each other as well as they should have during the time of his presidency, and perhaps two people who were trying to make up for lost time."

Partial transcript, Gerald L. Warren on "Face the Nation" 10 Aug 75 - filed 11 Aug 75.

③ - See entry 21 Sep 75, Hunt, Bob Woodward ... (last paragraph).

④ - "Frost's backing was [a] closely held secret ... leading at least one counter-cultural magazine, Rolling Stone [no date], to propose that some flush friends-in-need like Rebozo and ... Abplanalp had covertly put up the cash. Frost laughed off the speculation last week, insisting that he had paid installment No. 1 out of his own pocket. He plans to begin shooting next August and finish in time for broadcast after the election. Who would do the broadcasting remained unsettled: Frost has yet to line up a U.S. outlet."

Newsweek 20 Oct 75 - filed 13 Oct 75, when available on newsstands