SFChronicle

OCT 2 5 1973

26 San Francisco Chronicle ** Thurs., Oct. 25, 1973

How Nixon Heard the Uproar



By Jules Loh Associated Press

Washington

During the dizzying days that ended with Richard Nixon's capitulation to the court, the President's staff made sure he was kept fully aware of the cries for impeachment.

The "period of firestorm," as his chief os staff called it, was chronicled in expanded editions of the President' daily news summary.

From Saturday through yesterday the President received twice-daily digests of the reaction in the press and on Captiol Hill of his dismissal of the special Watergate prosecutor and the subsequent resignation and discharge of the Attorney General and his deputy.

Customarily the President receives only one news summary which is placed on his desk at 8 a.m. daily, according to Lyndon Allin, who supervises the digest's preparation.

PAGES

From October 20-24 the digests devoted 106 singlespaced typewritten pages to matters related to the wwhit House tapes and only 32 pages to other events including the Mideast war.

The digest delivered to the President at 7 a.m. Tuesday, the day he agreed to give the tapes to the court, included as an uplifting gesture a funny cartoon from, the "New Yorker" totally unrelated to Watergate. The Sunday digest also informed Californian Nixon that "the 's kept their series hopes alive with a 3-1 victory over the Mets in the 6th game."

There was little, however, to cheer the President in the rest of the inch-thick stack of digests summarizing the daily content of about 40 newspapers, three television networks, two wire services and the major news magazines.

START

Beginning with Saturday's digest informing him that "AFL-CIO said most Americans believe RN is guilty of criminal conduct" through yesterday's digest containing the results of an Oliver Quayle poll showing "if election were reheld it would be 59-44 McG," the President was able to read few items, in his favor.

The digest affects a cryp-

tic style, using initials for well-known names and other abbreviations.

The digest delivered to Mr. Nixon at 1 p.m. Saturday summarized reaction to his, proposed compromise over the tapes — mostly unfavorable — and also included this item concerning his former personal lawyer, Herbert W. Kalmbach, and his close friend Charles (Bebe) Rebozo:

"LA Times says Kalmbach knew in '72 or perhaps as early as '71 of \$100,000 donation ' that Howard Hughes sent to Rebozo."

SUNDAY

A 27-page digest was given to the President at 7 a.m. Sunday summarizing the news of Saturday, the day he dismissed special prosecutor Archibald Cox and the

and the Uproar

subsequent events. He received another nine-page digest later in the day. Some of the items:

"Salina (Kan.) Journal says 'Kansas delegation on Hill could perform no greater service to US than to initiate impeachment proceedings and secure RN's conviction."

"AP reports calls and 5000 telegrams poured into office of Cox supporting his opposition to RN's proposed compromise."

"Stanford law prof. Kaplan said 'if integrity counts any more, Hill has no choice but to impeach.""

DREAMS

Quoating broadcaster John Chancellor: "The worst dreams of everyone who has worried about tapes have now come true."

Quoting news commentator Hugh Sidey, "One of stupidest things in a long time or act of a desperate man."

Quoting Senator Edward M. Kennedy: "A reckless act of desperation by a President who is afraid of the Supreme Court, who has no respect for law and no regard for men of conscience."

Quoting Representative Edward I. Koch (Dem-N.Y.): "RN is a lawbreaker. It's that simple."

The digest also included a news item about how tape recordings could be altered.

MONDAY

The President received on Monday a 15-page summary containing more than 30 items calling for his impeachment by members of Congress and others, and a 30-page summary later in the day with more of the same.

Tuesday, the day he capitulated to the court, a 25-page digest contained these items:

"Inouye on all nets receiving standing ovation from AFL-CIO as he urged RN to resign and thus spare US the pain and trauma which impeachment could cause."

"Meany in all nets saying US had 'had enough' and receiving unanimous rousing cheer in call for impeachment unless RN resigns."

JULIE

Quoting the President's daughter in a television interview: "Julie said RN is in 'very good mood' and that 'references to a beleaguered White House and a desperate man are crazy.'"

By yesterday morning the President could read at least a few cheering items such as the following in a 30page summary:

"Proxmire said decision appears to purge RN of any contempt charge ... may have removed grim possibilities of impeachment."

But the same digest also contained the results of the Quayle poll and this commentary:

"As for the almost double (since August) 44 per cent who now favor impeachment, Quayle said he's never seen such dramatic shift on any issue in such a short time. RN's in deep trouble, said Quayle who finds shift in US mood 'startling, discouraging.""