

Dubious Judgment

"In these transcripts, portions not relevant . . . with regard to Watergate are not included, but everything that is relevant is included I have spent many hours of my own time personally reviewing these materials and personally deciding questions of relevancy."

President Nixon, April 29, 1974

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Among Mr. Nixon's deletions:

● *President:* John Dean . . . put the fires out, almost got the damn thing nailed down till past the election and so forth. We all know what it was. . . .

● *President:* I want you all to stonewall it, let them plead the Fifth Amendment, cover-up or anything else, if it'll save it—save the plan. That's the whole point. . . . Up to this point the whole theory has been containment, as you know, John.

Mitchell: Yeah.

Portion of White House conversation on March 22, 1973 as released by House Judiciary Committee, July 9, 1974

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"In our judgment it was of dubious relevance."

Ronald L. Ziegler, White House Press Secretary, explaining omission of this passage, July 10, 1974