

Kleindienst Text

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WASHINGTON, July 19—Following is the text of a transcript of a White House tape of a meeting of April 19, 1971, involving Mr. Nixon and Richard Kleindienst, then Deputy Attorney General. The transcript was prepared for the House Judiciary Committee by its impeachment inquiry staff:

PRESIDENT: Dick Kleindienst.

SECRETARY: Thank you, Mr. President.

P. Yeah.

S. Mr. Kleindienst, Mr. President.

KLEINDIENST: Hi, Mr. President.

P. Hi, Dick, how are you?

K. Good, how are you, sir?

P. Fine, fine. I'm going to talk to John tomorrow about my general attitude on antitrust.

K. Yes sir.

P. an in the meantime, I know that he has left with you, us, the I.T.&T. thing because apparently he says he had something to do with them once.

K. [Laughs] Yeah. Yeah.

P. Well, I have, I have nothing to do with them, and I want something clearly understood, and, if it is not understood, and, if it is not understood McLaren's ass is to be out within the hour. The I.T.&T. thing—stay the hell out of it. Is that clear? That's an order.

K. Well, you mean the order is to —

P. The order is to leave the God damned thing alone. Now, I've said this, Dick, a number of times, and you fellows apparently don't get the message over there. I do not want McLaren to run around prosecuting people, raising hell about conglomerates, stirring things up at this point. Now you keep him the hell out of that. Is that clear?

K. Well, Mr. President —

P. Or either he resigns. I'd rather have him out anyway. I don't like the son-of-a-bitch.

K. The, the question then is —

P. The question is, I knew that the jurisdiction—I know all the legal things, Dick, you don't have to spell out the legal —

K. [Unintelligible] the appeal filed.

P. That's right.

K. That brief has to be filed by tomorrow.

P. That's right. Don't file the brief.

K. Your order is not to file a brief?

P. Your—my order is to drop the God damn thing. Is that clear?

K. [Laughs] Yeah, I understand that

P. Okay.

K. [unintelligible]

[President hangs up.]

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