

KCBS San Francisco
12:30 p.m. local news

19 February 1976

Local Announcer: President Ford has a close brush with what could have left him and his campaign strategists with red faces. Fred Graham explains:

Graham (CBS network feed): The House Judiciary Subcommittee that questioned President Ford under oath about the Nixon pardon in 1974 met again today before the full glare of television lights to take a vote that could have resulted in a highly publicized reopening of the sensitive Nixon pardon issue just at a time when it could have embarrassed President Ford in his re-election [sic] campaign. Congresswoman Elizabeth Holtzmann of New York, a Democrat, made a motion to investigate charges published in the Washington Post* that former White House aide Alexander Haig had lobbied Mr. Ford to the pardon, and that the President was told Mr. Nixon might commit suicide if he were not pardoned. Representative Charles Wiggins, a Republican, cried "politics" and accused the Democrats of flogging a dead horse. But when the vote was taken, two Democrats, Martin Russo of Illinois and James Mann of South Carolina, lined up with the committee's two Republicans, and the effort to reopen the pardon issue failed, four to three. Fred Graham, CBS News, on Capitol Hill.

[end item]

* 12 FEB

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From WXPost 12 Feb 76,
members of subcommittee:

William L. Hungate, Missouri, chairman
James R. Mann, South Carolina
Elizabeth Holtzman, Brooklyn
Edward Mezvinsky, Iowa
Martin A. Russo, Illinois
Charles Wiggins, California
Henry J. Hyde, Illinois

Vote today:

For	Against
Dem	
	Dem
Dem	
Dem	
	Dem
	Rep
	Rep