

~~20 Apr 75~~

clippings filed W/gate

Oval Office "bug," 1970 - WXP, AP and UPI report on an article by Tad Szulc, written for July issue of Penthouse Magazine. The account by WXP begins "Penthouse magazine said [today] ...," which suggests these reports are based on an advance authorized by the magazine.

Szulc's article says a sophisticated laser beam transmitter, hidden in a wall of the Oval Office and concealed beneath a coat of Lincoln's, was removed in early Aug. 70. The device was "apparently controlled by one of the intelligence agencies." It was installed by a foreign-born writer employed by the government, whose name is known to Szulc. "Szulc said ... the device was, unlike a tape system, only meant to record individual words in the room as well as several simultaneous conversations [and] pick up all the other conversations ... and those were not necessarily important." The installation was completed by ...

AP says ... WXP ... UPI ... in 1970 [and] ... removed in early August 1970. The ... for several ... suggests there was some knowledge of the time the bug was in place.

Nixon, at press conference 22 Aug 70, said after he had the WR "taping" camera dismantled which ... it was "put in place of a ... 1970" ... correction of ... AP ... main press conference ... notes of Butterfield ...

- WXP 21 A
- NYT 21 A
- SFO 21 A