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Watergate-Suits Bjt NL 440
By CARL P. LEUBSDORF
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON AP - Democratic National Chairman Robert S. Strauss said Wednesday he is uncertain whether to accept an offer by President Nixon's re-election committee to settle three civil lawsuits stemming from the Watergate case.

The settlement offer is reported to be \$525,000.

Strauss told the National Press Club that he won't agree to settle the cases out of court if it will hamper full disclosure of the events surrounding the break-in and bugging of the party's Watergate headquarters last June.

Party sources said, meanwhile, that if Strauss doesn't accept the offer to settle the package of three lawsuits, which include two counter-suits against the Democrats by the Committee for the Re-election of the President, he may have to make a special fund-raising appeal to finance their prosecution.

Strauss conceded that the two parties would make differing interpretations of any out-of-court settlement.

"I would take it as an admission of guilty," he said. "They would of course deny it."

Devan L. Shumway, spokesman for the Nixon campaign organization, said, "I don't think it would necessarily be an admission of guilt in the case."

"It's more an attempt to get the matter resolved," Shumway added, while conceding that any settlement would be in favor of the Democrats.

Strauss and George Bush, chairman of the Republican National Committee, made a joint appearance before the press club. ~~Most of the questions went to Strauss. Since Bush has said he knows nothing of the Watergate background and that the GOP national committee was not involved.~~

Bush praised Nixon's decision to let White House aides appear before the Senate Watergate inquiry and said that "Watergate has not obscured the positive record of this administration."

~~Bush went a step beyond President Nixon's statement that any official of the executive branch who is indicted would be suspended, saying "If anybody is there at the GOP committee, who is involved in it in any way, he's going to be gainfully unemployed the next day."~~

The Democrats brought suit for \$6.4 million over the Watergate break-in; the GOP countersuits total \$7.5 million.

In discussing the civil suit, brought originally by former Democratic National Chairman Lawrence F. O'Brien after the June 17 break-in, Strauss termed it "the match that was used to light the fire to keep this whole thing smoldering" until the nation became aware of the case.

Because of the Democratic debt of \$3.5 million, Strauss said "I take no dim view" of getting funds from the Nixon campaign committee.

Party sources said the amount being offered would not be a factor in the Democratic decision on whether to settle out of court.

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Watergate

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Martha Mitchell 190

WASHINGTON ~~AP~~ - Martha Mitchell, who has been called to make a pre-trial statement in connection with the Watergate case, said Wednesday she would rather testify publicly.

Mrs. Mitchell, wife of former Atty. Gen. John Mitchell, said "I want to go on the Hill to testify publicly," before Sen. Sam Ervin's Watergate investigating committee.

In answer to a query, Mrs. Mitchell in New York told how she felt about being called to give a pre-trial statement May 2 in the multi-million dollar series of civil lawsuits arising from the Watergate burglary.

Lawyers for the Democratic Party which brought the suit, asked her to appear and to bring with her any records pertinent to the raid on the Democratic National headquarters in the Watergate building or any records relating to James McCord, one of the convicted defendants in the break-in, who once served as a bodyguard for the Mitchells.

Mrs. Mitchell said:

"I'm very sorry they just want a deposition. I want to go on the Hill to testify publicly. I do not want a deposition because any written word can be misinterpreted. I want to testify publicly."

Mrs. Mitchell has been vocal in trying to defend her husband, John Mitchell, because, she has said, she wants to prevent him from being made a scapegoat in the Watergate case.

She said that if Sen. Ervin will call her to testify she will have plenty to tell the senators, including "some things they never heard in the lives."

Mrs. Mitchell's latest comments were relayed through her Washington spokeswoman, Mrs. Winzola McLendon.

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GOP youth aide quits; Watergate tie speculated

By BRUCE WENTERS
Washington Bureau of The Sun

Washington—Kenneth Rietz, who caught President Nixon's attention because of his political organizing last year among young people, has resigned unexpectedly from a key staff position on the Re-

publican National Committee. The announcement was made yesterday by George Bush, the GOP national chairman, who said Mr. Rietz handed him a letter of resignation Monday that cited a "quite extraordinary" offer from private industry as the reason for departure.

Mr. Rietz, who was named in February director of the national committee's "new majority campaign" for 1974, was not available for comment throughout the day either at his home or at his desk at GOP headquarters.

Watergate speculation

In Washington, speculation immediately developed over a possible connection between the resignation and the Watergate scandal. None was immediately apparent, but the guessing continued, anyway.

Mr. Bush provided a takeoff point. Asked if Mr. Rietz offered any other explanation for leaving, he replied: "Nothing I am prepared to talk about."

He then referred any further questions to Mr. Rietz.

At 31 years of age, Mr. Rietz is a seasoned political operative, having worked first in President Nixon's 1968 campaign. In 1969, he was named the national committee's assistant director of communications, a position he left a year later to manage the winning campaign of Senator William E. Brock 3d, in Tennessee.

Before reinvolving himself in President Nixon's 1972 campaign, Mr. Rietz was vice president of the political consulting firm of Allison, Treleaven and Rietz, Inc.

Mr. Nixon was said to be particularly impressed by the youth rally Mr. Rietz organized during the Miami Beach convention, a nationally televised event highlighted by the bear hug the President re-

ceived in a moment of enthusiasm from Sammy Davis, Jr., the entertainer.

Mr. Rietz later became director of the young voters

division of the Committee for the Re-election of the President, another assignment he is said to have acquitted with Mr. Nixon's approbation.

As the party's post-election strategy began focusing on how to turn the President's smashing victory into a new congressional majority in 1974 Mr. Rietz's name rose again and it is said to have been readily endorsed by H.R. Haldeman, the White House chief of staff.

Whether any of these activities or associations had a Watergate connection was uncertain. One school of thought suggested Mr. Rietz was leaving partly in protest, partly because Watergate seriously hurt GOP party-building plans and partly because a good job in industry, indeed, had come his way.

The three-paragraph announcement of his resignation was dry and to the point.

"In accepting Rietz's resignation," it said, "Bush thanked

him for his efforts in starting the Republican National Committee's planning for 1974."

Perhaps significantly, it went on to note that a successor would be chosen after consultation

with the chairmen of the House and Senate Campaign Committees. Mr. Rietz, on the other hand, had been a White House pick rather than a congressional selection.

Watergate & Rietz

Watergate
88

How the Watergate Coverup Failed

By Jack Anderson

The astonishing story can now be told how the Watergate coverup suddenly tore apart at the stitches.

Our sources declare categorically that President Nixon had no advance knowledge of the Watergate break-in and bugging. From the first, former Attorney General John Mitchell and White House counsel John Dean also swore to him that they had no part in the illegal operation. It was well known around the White House, however, that Jeb Stuart Magruder was neck-deep in the scandal.

As No. 2 man on the campaign committee, he directed the activities of Watergate ringleader G. Gordon Liddy.

Liddy submitted regular reports to Magruder on the bugging operation under the code name, "Gemstone." Magruder also arranged for Liddy to draw cash out of the committee's safe.

After the arrest of the Watergate wiretappers, an agitated Liddy immediately tried to contact Magruder in California. Liddy demanded to use the White House security network so he could speak on a secure phone. Unable to get through to Magruder's hotel, Liddy left a message for Magruder to call him from a pay phone.

When the call came through, Liddy reported what had happened and received in-

structions to destroy all incriminating evidence. Finally, Magruder directed Liddy to report at once to Attorney General Richard Kleindienst.

Liddy located Kleindienst at the Burning Tree golf course and rushed off to consult him. Powell Moore, the campaign press chief, asked to go along. They called Kleindienst into a back room and confided that the burglary-bugging squad, caught red-handed inside Democratic headquarters, was headed by the President's campaign security chief.

Coldly, Kleindienst picked up a telephone and reached Assistant Attorney General Henry Petersen. "Henry," instructed Kleindienst, "I want to be sure that these people are treated as any other person would be treated who is arrested under those circumstances."

The chastened Liddy returned to campaign headquarters and began stuffing his files into a small shredder, which chewed them up too slowly to suit him. So he hustled upstairs with arms full of documents and ran them through a larger shredder.

Over at the White House, meanwhile, Dean ordered two aides to clean out the files of Watergate conspirator E. Howard Hunt. Eight cardboard cartons of papers were sneaked out of the White House and stored in a warehouse. They were later returned to the White House, and most of the

documents were selectively destroyed.

Dean was ordered by the President to find out whether any White House people were involved in the Watergate crimes. Contrary to the impression given out by the White House, Dean never submitted a written report.

Our sources state flatly that Dean used his authority to obstruct the FBI and to keep incriminating evidence away from the Justice Department. He even ordered Hunt out of the country. White House aide Charles Colson, according to one source, exploded: "Do you want to make the White House an accessory to a fugitive from justice?"

Cover-up Begins

One of the President's closest advisers, John Ehrlichman, wanted to put out a statement acknowledging Magruder's role in the Watergate conspiracy. This was vigorously opposed by Clark MacGregor who succeeded Mitchell as campaign chairman.

A few presidential advisers, including Ehrlichman and Colson, warned the President in February that the Watergate decisions must have been approved by Mitchell and Dean. Mr. Nixon replied that both had denied any involvement and asked for proof.

By mid-March, the President's faith in Dean began to waver. He ordered Dean to Camp David to write a belated

report on his Watergate investigation. After a few days at the presidential retreat, Dean reported back to the President that he simply couldn't write a report. Angrily, Mr. Nixon took Dean off the Watergate case.

Colson, meanwhile, took a lie-detector test to prove his own innocence. Dean was furious. "Now we're all going to have to take one," he grumped.

Colson and Ehrlichman also put together information that (1) Dean had advance knowledge of the Watergate bugging; (2) Dean had ordered Hunt out of the country; and (3) Dean had authorized payments to the Watergate defendants to keep their mouths shut. On Friday, April 13, Ehrlichman confronted Dean with the charges.

That night, Dean put together some documents he had been saving, which indicated both H.R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman had knowledge of the Watergate coverup. Next day, Dean took the documents to Assistant U.S. Attorney Earl Silbert and made accusations against Haldeman, Ehrlichman, Mitchell and Magruder. In return, Dean asked for immunity.

Silbert refused to grant immunity. Instead, he called in Magruder and confronted him with Dean's revelations. This broke down Magruder who also confessed his role in the conspiracy.

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Anderson also said presidential counsel John W. Dean III
April 14 asked federal prosecutors for immunity and made
accusations against Magruder and others. He said
prosecutors refused the plea for immunity, but later broke down
Magruder by confronting him with Dean's accusations.

Since then Magruder has been quoted as accusing Dean and
former Atty. Gen. John N. Mitchell of approving the Watergate
bugging in advance. Dean has said publicly he won't
be a scapegoat.

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Watergate 3d Lead

By JAMES E. WALTERS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON AP - President Nixon met for a second time Wednesday
with a lawyer retained by two of his aides to represent them
in the Watergate wiretapping case, the White House said today.

Presidential Press Secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said the lawyer,
John J. Wilson, then presumably met today with the two aides, H. R.
HALDEMAN AND John D. Ehrlichman.

Ziegler also denied flatly a report that the President had aske

Presidential Press Secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said the lawyer,
John J. Wilson, then presumably met today with the two aides, H. R.
Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman.

Ziegler also denied flatly a report that the President had asked
former Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird to join the White House
staff to direct a re-organization. A source close to Laird also
denied Wednesday that such an offer had been made. Laird himself
has said he isn't available for such a task.

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Watergate Lead 300

By JAMES E. WALTERS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON AP - Powell Moore, a former public information
spokesman for the Nixon campaign, appeared in the offices of
federal prosecutors today as the Watergate grand jury reconvened.

Moore refused to comment on a report published today by columnist
Jack Anderson, saying Moore and Watergate conspirator G. Gordon
Liddy approached Atty. Gen. Richard Kleindienst the day after
Liddy's wiretapping crew was arrested.

Moore said he hadn't known of the bugging scheme in advance.
To all other questions, he told newsmen, "I am just not going
to comment."

Anderson quoted anonymous surces as saying that Liddy, who
was later convicted as the alleged mastermind of the Watergate
operation, contacted Kleindienst on orders of campaign deputy
Jeb S. Magruder. When Liddy located Kleindienst at a golf course,
Moore asked to go along, Anderson said.

Then the three men-Liddy, Kleindienst and Moore-reportedly
went into a back room, where Liddy told Kleindienst that one of
the five men arrested inside Democratic offices early that
morning was Nixon's campaign security chief.

Anderson said Kleindienst then telephoned Asst. Atty. Gen.
Henry Petersen, who heads the criminal division, and told him
"Henry, I want to be sure that these people are treated as
any other person would be treated who is arrested under those
circumstances."

Justice Department spokesmen wouldn't comment on Anderson's
story today. Liddy himself eventually was indicted with the
five arrested men and E. Howard Hunt, a former White House
consultant. All were convicted.

The present spokesman for the Nixon campaign organization
said today that workers for the re-election committee mailed in
more than a third of the favorable responses recorded in a
local television poll last year of reaction to the mining of
North Vietnamese waters.

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WASH Watergate Bjt, AO16WX, Take 2: campaign, 480

-Former Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird denied speculation that he will return to Washington at Nixon's request to help clean up the White House staff as a result of the Watergate affair.

He told a reporter Wednesday in Marshfield, Wis.: "I was drafted four years to end our involvement in South Vietnam and to end the draft, and I cannot be drafted again."

-Syndicated columnist Jack Anderson said he promised federal investigators that he will stop quoting from secret transcripts of the grand jury investigation into Watergate. He said no deals were made and that he had not promised to stop investigating the case.

-It was disclosed that the Federal Reserve System had been asked by government investigators to trace \$10,000, mostly in \$100 bills, carried by the wife of convicted Watergate conspirator E. Howard Hunt at the time of her death in a plane crash last December.

The Federal Reserve System distributes money to commercial banks. Most of the bills were traced to New York state by their serial numbers but the board said it could not trace them further.

In its story today on the TV-poll balloting, The Washington Post quoted James Dooley, former head of the Nixon committee's mailroom, as saying that committee employees sent in about 4,000 of the 5,157 responses agreeing with the President.

"Work ground to a halt in the press office while everyone filled out 15 postcards," the Post quoted Dooley, 19. Dooley also said committee workers were sent to purchase 1,000 newspapers from which WTTG ballots were clipped.

"I think it's a most unfortunate abuse of an honest attempt to survey public opinion," said Ed Turner, news director for Metromedia.

Frank Mankiewicz, a top official in the Democratic presidential campaign of Sen. George McGovern, told the Post: "We didn't do it. It didn't occur to us. These guys are something. They assume we have the same sleazy ethics as theirs."

In Los Angeles, a former worker in Nixon's California campaign said he witnessed fellow workers soliciting—and in some cases making up—telegrams to send to the White House supporting the mining of Haiphong harbor.

Larry Carroll, now a reporter for KABC-TV in Los Angeles, commented after a Wednesday report in The Washington Post that the Nixon committee spent \$8,400 on a publicity drive aimed at fabricating bipartisan support for the mining. He said he did not comment previously because he felt he would have been called a "McGovern spy."

In New York, Rep. John M. Murphy, D-N.Y., says convicted Watergate conspirator G. Gordon Liddy tried to buy a number of weapons from a Washington area gun dealer last year, apparently at the time the break-in was being planned.

Liddy, a former White House aide, is said to be a gun collector.

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Watergate-Reasons Bjt 410, Two Takes 820

An AP News Analysis

By WALTER R. MEARS

AP Political Writer

WASHINGTON AP

- When the web of involvement in the Watergate affair finally is untangled, a question will remain to haunt the Nixon White House: Why did they do it?

Why, while President Nixon's re-election prospects soared and his early Democratic rivals foundered, did men in his campaign organization deem it necessary to try wiretapping?

And why the earlier attempts at spying and apparent political sabotage against Democratic candidates who seemed to need no assistance in bungling their campaigns?

For all the investigations into who acted and who knew of Republican political spying in 1972, there may never be a clear answer as to motive.

"What really hurts in matters of this sort is not the fact that they occur, because overzealous people in campaigns do things that are wrong," Nixon said last Aug. 29. "What really hurts is if you try to cover it up."

That is hurting now as Watergate accusers point to men high in the White House, while Nixon's spokesmen deny the President had any knowledge of what was going on.

There has been a claim that political surveillance originally was ordered because of a risk of demonstrations against Republican campaigners.

But that could hardly be a motive for the wiretapping-burglary at Democratic headquarters last June 17, or for the abortive attempt to bug the campaign offices of Sen. George McGovern three weeks earlier.

It seems more likely that Watergate happened because the Committee for the Re-election of the President was unleashed to do what its title said, with more money to spend than any candidate could really need.

Jeb Stuart Magruder, who actually ran that committee in its early days, before John N. Mitchell resigned as attorney general for his stint as chairman, has testified that the organization spent some \$48 million on the campaign. It had \$4 million left over after Nixon's landslide re-election.

So there was plenty of money to pay substantial sums to a college student recruited to infiltrate the campaigns of McGovern and Sen. Edmund S. Muskie, and to finance alleged sabotage efforts.

And there are charges now that the same treasury financed efforts to buy the silence of the seven men convicted in the Watergate raid.

MORE

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Republicans now say that the Nixon campaign operation functioned with ample latitude to plot and do what was done, and without the knowledge of the President.

"You need only know the players involved," said Sen. Robert J. Dole of Kansas, the former Republican chairman, who never cared much for the CRP operators anyhow.

What the Nixon campaign committee seems to have had was a budget and a license for political overkill, both of which it used.

By the time the Watergate raid occurred, McGovern, the Democratic candidate Nixon men were said to have feared least among the opposition prospects, was clearly on his way to nomination.

The campaign for Muskie, who once as towering front-runner had led Nixon in 1971 public-opinion polls, had collapsed. Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey was still trying, but with scant hope of nomination.

There was no evidence any covert CRP operation had significantly affected that Democratic situation.

On June 15, the day before the Watergate burglary, George Gallup's pollsters began three days of soundings which found that Nixon had a 60-per-cent-approval rating as president. That polling also discovered that in a two-man race, Nixon led McGovern 53 per cent to 37 per cent.

Ultimately, Nixon won with 61 per cent of the vote to McGovern's 38 per cent.

So the President was in firm command of the presidential campaign, if not his own staff and organization.

There is another irony in the fact that the Watergate crew had bugged a Democratic headquarters that actually had little to do with what was happening in the presidential campaign. It was managing the debt, scheduling the convention, and dealing with party leaders who had lost their clout to the McGovern newcomers.

McGovern hammered the Watergate issue throughout his campaign-but a month before the election, a Gallup Poll reported that 80 per cent of those interviewed did not consider the wiretapping case a strong reason to vote for the Democratic nominee.

The White House was denying all charges, standing on a Nixon statement that no one in the administration was involved. That statement has now been overtaken by events, and pronounced inoperative.

And the latest Gallup Poll indicates that 41 per cent of the American people believe Nixon knew in advance of the Watergate bugging.

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Ballots-Shumway 360

WASHINGTON AP - An official of President Nixon's re-election committee says committee workers sent in thousands of phony ballots to a television station poll which showed overwhelming support for Nixon's decision to mine North Vietnamese waters, the Washington Post reports.

DeVan L. Shumway, spokesman for the Committee for the Re-election of the President, was quoted in Thursday's editions of the Post as saying the committee sent "about 2,000 ballots and responses" to the poll conducted by Washington Metromedia station WTTG.

The paper also said another former Nixon committee official said the panel sent in about 4,000 of the responses agreeing with the President.

Final results of the poll taken during the week of May 15, 1972, showed 5,157 agreeing with the President and 1,158 opposed.

When the station reported the results of its poll, it qualified the results by saying several thousand of the postcards apparently had been typed on the same typewriters and had much the same phrasing, the Post said.

The Post quoted Shumway as saying: "When you're involved in an election, you do what you can. That type of voluntary poll is the most stackable type thing. We assumed the other side would do it also. On that assumption we proceeded. I don't know if the other side did."

The paper also quoted James Dooley, former head of the mailroom at the re-election committee, as saying that committee workers were sent out to buy about 1,000 newspapers from which the ballots were clipped. In addition, the Post quoted Dooley as saying, about 2,000 postcards were filled out and mailed in.

"Work ground to a halt in the press office while everyone filled out 15 postcards," the paper quoted Dooley, 19, as saying. "Ten people worked for several days buying different kinds of stamps and postcards and getting different handwriting to fake the responses."

The Post said Wednesday that the Nixon committee conducted a campaign last May to distort the over-all view of the American public's response to the mining. That effort, the Post said, included paying for telegrams of support being sent to the President and the placing of an apparently deceptive advertisement in The New York Times supporting the mining and criticizing an editorial in the Times opposing it.

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Rietz 330

WASHINGTON AP - A former Nixon campaign official says charges he masterminded "a spy ring of kids" are ridiculous, the Washington Post reported in Thursday's editions.

The newspaper said Kenneth S. Rietz denied he recruited young voters to spy on Democratic presidential nominee George McGovern's campaign.

"To say that I masterminded a spy ring of kids to spy on McGovern is ridiculous. If there was any spying to be done, they should have been doing it on us," the Post quoted Rietz as saying.

The Post said despite Rietz' denial, Senate sources told the newspaper that Senate investigators have been told Rietz recruited four or five young people to infiltrate McGovern campaign organizations.

The information that Rietz was about to be linked to alleged Republican espionage during the 1972 campaign also was learned by Republican National Committee Chairman George Bush, the newspaper said.

The newspaper said Bush asked Rietz to resign his job as director of the "The Majority Campaign" within an hour after learning the information.

Rietz abruptly quit his job Monday. He now works for MGM Records in Los Angeles.

A Republican source close to the administration said the Rietz operation involved "many little Watergates" directed at Democratic candidate headquarters, the Post said.

The Post also reported that Rietz said a student at George Washington University in Washington, was the only student recruited for espionage activity.

The newspaper said Rietz was asked if he thought this activity was a mistake. It quoted him as replying:

"It wasn't a mistake or an asset. We were trying to collect information on a radical group as to what they might do in Miami the site of the Republican National Convention or elsewhere. We didn't do it anywhere else because the opportunity did not arise."

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Watergate
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Watergate Bjt 400, Two Takes 880

BY JAMES E. WALTERS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON AP - Workers for President Nixon's re-election committee mailed in more than a third of the favorable responses recorded in a local television poll last year of reaction to the mining of North Vietnamese waters, a campaign official said today.

DeVan L. Shunway, spokesman for the Committee for the Re-election of the President, said he didn't regard it as rigging the poll because "we felt the Democrats would do the same thing." "That type of voluntary poll is the most stackable thing," he said. "When you're involved in an election, you do what you can. We assumed the other side would do the same thing."

The final result of the poll, as announced by Metromedia station WTTG, was 5,157 agreeing with Nixon's decision to mine Haiphong harbor and 1,158 disagreeing. When WTTG reported the results May 15, it said that it had received several thousand postcards that were of a suspicious nature because they apparently had been typed on the same typewriters. Shunway said "about 2,000 ballots and responses" were mailed by committee workers.

In other Watergate developments:

-Vice President Spiro T. Agnew told a news conference, "I want to make it very clear that I have full confidence in the integrity of President Nixon and in his determination and ability to resolve the Watergate matter to the full satisfaction of the American people."

There have been published reports quoting unnamed associates and friends of Agnew as saying he was upset over the break-in and bugging at the Democratic national headquarters in the Watergate and felt the President had done too little to uncover the facts.

"Let me emphasize that I do not speak through such unidentified sources," Agnew said. He read a prepared statement, then declined to answer questions.

The Los Angeles Times said it is standing by its story of April 13 that Agnew "is reported to be personally appalled by the affair and by the way the administration has handled it."

-The Washington Post quoted Kenneth S. Rietz, a former Nixon campaign official, as denying he recruited four or five young persons to infiltrate Democratic presidential nominee George McGovern's campaign organization. Rietz, 31, was director of the "New Majority Campaign" of the Republican National Committee when he quit abruptly Monday to accept a job with MGM records.

The Post said RNC Chairman George Bush asked Rietz's resignation an hour after learning he had been linked to alleged Republican espionage during the 1972 campaign.

MORE

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Chris Ben
Press Intelligence, Inc.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20001

Front Page Edit Page Other Page

CHICAGO, ILL.
SUN-TIMES

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12 CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, Mon., Apr. 23, 1973

Watergate called depressant to GOP dinner ticket sales

By Thomas J. Foley
Los Angeles Times Special

WASHINGTON — The Watergate scandal is dampening GOP campaign contributions, particularly for a May 9 congressional dinner, Republican sources report.

Earlier goals calling for the annual fund-raiser next month to add \$2 million for next year's House and Senate election campaigns have been cut in half. A Republican working on plans for the dinner said "This has really hurt us badly. It will be extraordinary if we get \$1 million."

Sen. William G. Brock (R-Tenn.), chairman of the Republican senatorial campaign committee, one of the sponsoring organizations, said he hoped to do that well "and maybe a little bit better."

However, the response to the first round of letters to the GOP list of 10,000 potential din-

ner contributors was so dismal that sponsors drafted a letter trying to dissociate the committees from any connection with Watergate.

The letter was supposed to go out under the names of Brock, Rep. Robert Michel (R-

Ill.), house GOP campaign committee chairman, and George Bush, GOP national chairman.

GOP officials said Bush balked at the last minute, and efforts were made to have Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) sign it. However, the project was dropped when President Nixon announced Tuesday the White House would co-operate with the Senate committee investigating Watergate.

Republican staffers also reported dinner ticket sales were being hurt by the fact that the Committee for the Re-election of the President still has \$4.5 million left from the fall campaign. The money is being held to finance involvement in civil suits stemming from the Watergate affair.

Waggoner

SPECIAL REPORT: WED. TV SPECIALS
ON WATERGATE
APRIL 25, 1973

On one DC station or another between 9 pm and 12:30 am Wed. nite -- w/the exception of 1/2 hour -- Watergate specials were on. From 9-10, Agronsky w/an expanded hour discussed issue w/ Kilpatrick, Sidey and Lisagor. From 10:30-11:00, and the only network show, ABC presented a report w/HKS. And from 11:00-12:30, the issue was discussed on Metromedia by Jack Anderson, Vic Gold, Barry Sussman (editor of Post's Watergate coverage) and Metromedia analyst Martin Abend.

Sidey, Kilpatrick, Gold and Anderson were all extremely forceful in expressing one dominant consensus of the night: The President must act soon in a decisive fashion. To exonerate himself, said Sidey. He must "purge" and should move "yesterday" or w/in hours, said Gold, in order to separate self from "sordid mess" altho he must acknowledge responsibility for choosing his aides. "Clean house!" said Kilpatrick in strong terms as he said he couldn't improve on Star edit -- everyone, from HRH down, must go now if RN is to save self. And if RN knew of bugging or of coverup, which Kilpatrick is confident he did not, then impeachment will result -- "yes, impeach the man," said Kilpatrick of the person whom he said he has supported since he 1st met RN when he came to Congress. Lisagor said RN must move w/dispatch; he can't afford to be seen looking for political benefits of various options or he'll only get deeper into the soup.

Jack Anderson shared Kilpatrick's view that RN didn't know of specific bugging but he said RN did touch off the overall intelligence effort in '71 and was clearly part of the coverup, tho not necessarily the payoffs etc. But, several times Anderson emphasized that he is convinced RN knew nothing of Watergate itself and that the longer RN delays in acting, the worse the problem becomes for him. (Woodward/Bernstein on Agronsky show also emphasized they have no evidence linking RN to any knowledge of Watergate itself.) Anderson stressed belief -- Jarriel called moves "inevitable" and others generally acted as tho they expect resignations -- that RN will clean house. If he does, Anderson feels impeachment will not and should not be considered.

Anderson sees RN embarked on a "definite, bold course," an "outraged" Pres. who is convinced some of his most trusted aides lied to him and RN will not protect them. He said RN previously asked for proof (Jan/Feb) of charges as he wasn't willing then "to behead innocents." Anderson noted RN had directed Liddy via Peterson "to tell all you know" -- it's the "patriotic" thing to do, RN reportedly said and to Anderson, that indicates a President who wants to get to the bottom" of it. Post's Woodward said Presidency is very resilient and RN can perhaps pull off "indictments w/honor" by seizing initiative. He hopes all is resolved ASAP to minimize day-by-day damage to presidency. Anderson also felt if GOP continues to take lead in forcing disclosure, it won't be hurt by incident in '74, nor should it be.

Martin Abend, tho disclaiming role of Admin defender while also most sharply criticizing media's "self-righteous and selective indignation," still felt RN must clean house if only because aides have become politically embarrassing to him.

ABC SPECIAL

Largely a review of the case from last June forward w/show broken up by Hungate's ditty "Come, Spy W/Me Down at the Old Watergate." Smith called it "The Scandal That Wouldn't Go Away" and said it's likely to haunt GOP for years. Jarriel described WH as in state of "virtual paralysis" w/Palace Guard seriously undermined as RN publicly refuses to reaffirm confidence in them. Jarriel emphasized RN set up the staff w/its "cool, detached efficiency" and it has "justifiably" been seen as isolating RN. Jarriel said "close sources" to RN say HRH will resign soon w/Rogers, Laird and Harlow rumored replacements. Jarriel said incident should teach RN that Oval must have more access as the current structure resulted in RN "blind spot." Jarriel feels it doubtful RN knew of breakin or payoffs but said he may have known of overall campaign intelligence operation. And he said RN's top staff are virtual prisoners in their offices unsure of RN's plans to deal w/situation which threatens to leave him a weakened, lame duck Pres.

ABC also w/film of Weicker saying RN spoke out when he had the facts and saying RN was "terribly abused" by his staff. Donaldson reviewed grand jury situation w/expected indictments this time not of unknown persons but of those given responsibility and power in

RN's Admin. Ervin on film again indicating his probe may be delayed but emphasizing his belief that far more serious than Watergate itself is whether there was conscious effort to sabotage Dem candidates pre-convention and Ervin stressed the "very broad authority" his comm. has -- especially to look into money situation.

ABC also w/interview of Bradlee calling RZ's "inoperative" remark -- sharply rapped a number of times as RZ's own credibility took considerable criticism during the night -- a "pretty cheap" device. Anderson called "inoperative" an admission of 10 months of "lies." (NB: Woodward/Bernstein were on Today and the Agronsky show Wed; Kay Graham on CBS AM and Agronsky; Bradlee on ABC's Network Special and Post's Sussman on Metromedia special.)

HKS concluded ABC Special w/his previously reported call for strong campaign spending controls or the availability of the dollar of the special interests will continue to be the temptress which leads to more Watergates, etc.



METROMEDIA

Besides Anderson/Abend comments noted above, the following was of interest:

1) Opening the show, Post's Sussman was asked what Thurs. story would be. He suggested it could well be CRP's purchase of 2-4,000 papers last May in order to clip coupons for poll on RN's bombing/mining. Poll was taken by Metromedia and result was 5177 - 1178 w/Sussman saying it really was 1177 - 1178 given 4,000 votes sent in by CREP. This charge caused moderator Goldsmith to ask if Post was running out of material on Watergate. And Gold failed to see comparison between pollstacking and Watergate. Besides saying Dems were stupid if they weren't doing the same, Vic also pointed out great public support in Gallup and other non-stacked polls for RN's move. When it was suggested poll-stacking was just politics, Anderson said that's what GOP/CREP has said all along re: Watergate etc yet he's heard of no Dem bugging or illegal moves save a "few harmless pranks" by Tuck and they were by McG vs. Muskie.

2) Metromedia NYC analyst Abend wondered why no protest over Dem buggings of Otepka (Kilpatrick asked same on another show and was almost laughed off w/Lisagor indignantly charging Kilpo w/"cheapest and shoddiest" argument he'd ever heard) or over King taps w/RFK's authority. Such a "paricity" of info, said Abend, has been brought up re: Watergate that he attributes much of it to animus of media over fact that RN won again. Thruout show, he emphasized view that Watergate itself would not have been done unless there was reason to believe on part of conspirators that Dems were planning riots at GOP Conv. or other moves inimical to Nat'l interest.

Abend never condoned the bugging, but said it wasn't new; that US political history has always been "rotten" and the great sin is that high

persons - anybody at such levels in corruptible, he said - were caught w/pants down and there's a "glee" in liberal circles over it. Tho none of other panelists agreed w/his views, he continued to emphasize them. Abend was also indignant over Dem refusal to tell what was on tapes - if they're not hiding anything, why not come clean? Anderson said reason was extremely embarrassing personal info and nothing political. Abend doesn't believe that and even if it is true, he feels conspirators nonetheless believed there was something to learn - and that's a mitigating factor in the crime.

AGRONSKY AND CO

Of the 3 shows, this was the most critical, and one must say, the most depressing. Besides aforementioned discussion of impeachment, the 1st such active talk heard from a major source, several very damaging series of clips were run. The 1st series was of statements by CREP and WH officials denying involvement. "By their words, ye shall know them," concluded a bitterly hostile Agronsky who said the past statements must be taken into account as some were "outright lies" and they've led to a credibility gap 2nd to none in US history. Another series was exclusively of Mitchell whose closeness to RN and status as #1 law officer in land was stressed before and after the review of his "contradictions" which Agronsky said will live to haunt him. Sidey called the Mitchell statements since last fall "appalling;" Kilpatrick said he was "ashamed." Sidey asked how it is now to be assumed RN and Mitchell didn't talk about everything even tho their closeness was never denied before. HRH/Mitchell/RN were always seen as one, he said. Now WH acts as if it wants to repeal 5 years of history on that score - as Sidey said it also wants press to do re: the loyalty, subordination etc of top aides to RN. Now they're to be seen as men who would go beyond his authority etc.



Other areas of comment/interest on Agronsky show:

1) Lisagor felt special prosecutor is needed as neither WH nor Justice can investigate self and it still looks to public as if WH is covering up. Opposing the idea, Kilpatrick said RN ought to know enough by now to act on own. But Lisagor felt the Easter calls and RZ on "no resignations" indicated RN doesn't have enough info or won't do what's needed on his own. And what more can RN say -- he denied he'll allow coverup; a respected, believable outsider is needed, said Lisagor. Sidey said Ziegler's answer to question on 8:15 meetings reflected how one can no longer believe the official spokesman. (Anderson said RZ "has to go" along w/ the others as RN needs new team of unimpeccable integrity.) Sidey also said that "drip, drip, drip," a national attitude, judicial process or not, is forming on who's responsible for Watergate and RN's credibility continues to erode.

2) Agronsky/Lisagor strongly agreed w/ Broder that news conferences could have avoided coverup. Sidey said HAK/Shultz and Klein operations all stay in touch w/ "real world" and listen to critics while HRH operation drew WH around it, scorned press and Hill and had no outside conduits. Kilpatrick regarded as absurd -- "horsefeathers," "hogwash" -- that news conferences make any difference and pointed to Lisagor's own negative view of TV session.

3) Lisagor, ala HKS and Gardner, said "loose dough" was main reason for Watergate etc. Agronsky said Vesco aide's request for help when he gave \$200,000 to Stans was the "most utterly contemptuous move" he'd seen toward democracy. But when Agronsky lay into the phony telegrams, Kilpatrick said one shouldn't get uptite over rallying of public support.

4) Show closed w/ argument over "gloating" at RN's predicament. Lisagor, Sidey and Agronsky refused to accept HAK's worry of "orgy of recriminations" or Kilpatrick's contention that Dems were looking forward to '74 and ties of GOP candidates w/ Watergate. If not true, he's willing "to swim freestyle in their crocodile tears." Kilpatrick got in the last word of show on this point, but it was a small victory in comparison to what had gone before.

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EVANS-NOVAK POLITICAL REPORT

48
Watergate

WHAT'S HAPPENING . . . WHO'S AHEAD . . . IN POLITICS TODAY

1750 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. • Room 1312 • Washington, D.C. 20006 • 202-298-7850

TO: Our Subscribers

April 25, 1973 - No. 162

FROM: Evans-Novak

SPECIAL WATERGATE REPORT

The Watergate Affair has now become this country's worst political scandal in at least a century. It threatens President Richard M. Nixon with mounting problems of national leadership, party leadership and personal political morality that could transform his second term into outright disaster.

We find a dangerous, demoralizing breakdown of confidence and forward motion in the White House itself, spreading to all corners of the federal establishment, with no clear view yet of what the President plans to do about it all. The central question: Can he govern and make the country and his Administration respond to him?

Mr. Nixon is receiving seriously conflicting advice. He seems to be trending back to his oldest political friends, such as Sec. of State William Rogers and ex-HEW Sec. Robert Finch, his faithful long-time secretary Rosemary Wood, and Herbert Klein. He also seems to be desperately trying to convince himself that he can at least retain H. R. (Bob) Haldeman in his present White House job.

RMN

We know not a single serious Republican politician who isn't convinced that Richard M. Nixon himself knew all about Watergate, both before and after, and either cleared or initiated the cover-up plan after the June 17th arrests. No Republicans are saying this publicly (although Mass. Sen. Edward Brooke came close to it on national tv last Sunday), but the conviction is there and it is one reason why so few Republicans have said anything to ameliorate the President's hapless situation today.

We find virtually no pity, no real sympathy for Mr. Nixon among his own party officials or office-holders but, to the contrary, a mood of hardness towards him and contempt for his White House staff. This is not the stuff out of which accommodations are made. Therefore, we see a hardening and continuation of the estrangement between the President and his party, but with the latter now having more leverage than at any time in the recent past.

The President was shattered by the many disclosures to the Federal Grand Jury following conspirator James McCord's song, and he reacted characteristically: long periods alone, or with such old intimates as Rogers (down the Potomac on the Sequoia) and Finch (two hours alone at San Clemente two weeks ago). But Mr. Nixon very definitely does not want to change his staff, does not want to fire Haldeman, Counsel John Dean or anyone else. So, as we go to press, he's hunkering down and waiting to see what new and awful lies ahead. So is every other Republican.

WATERGATE AND THE REPUBLICANS

Here are a few of the immediate ramifications and unanswered questions in the most electrifying political scandal of modern times:

1) As the outpouring of detailed new scandals continues, some key GOP politicians, here and around the country, are talking of impeachment proceedings against the President by the Democrats. We strongly doubt anything so draconian is in sight - particularly with the accession of Vice-President Spiro Agnew as the prospect - but the mere fact that Republicans are talking in this manner illustrates the depths of feeling.

2) Will Mr. Nixon be able to retrieve the minimum respect and confidence to continue governing? His party is sickened by what they have been reading and is making little effort to defend their leader. A major White House campaign - if the White House can even be talked of, at this writing, as a single entity - has been underway, with total lack of success, to stimulate pro-Nixon defenders around the country. There just aren't any yet. Only if and when the Democrats revert to overkill will Mr. Nixon's erstwhile allies come out of the woodwork.

3) The White House has turned into a ghost house these past few days. Top-level politicians always able to penetrate by phone to Haldeman and John Erlichman now can't get through to anyone, and are told that their calls won't be returned.

4) Mr. Nixon cannot make up his mind whether to deliver a Presidential Checkers-type speech now, or wait till he has a better reading on how much more squealing his staff will engage in. When he does make his speech, how far should he go in telling the whole truth and in revealing his own role?

5) Apart from Watergate and several lurking campaign finance scandals, the White House is very worried about the Robert L. Vesco grand jury proceedings in New York. With at least one Nixon brother involved, vast amounts of cash contributions, ostensibly for the 1972 campaign, surreptitiously moved into the White House at a time when Vesco's IOS Ltd. was under SEC investigation.

6) Republican leaders around the country want ex-Defense Sec. Melvin Laird - or some top-level Republican with similar credentials as a party regular not too closely identified in the past with RMN - to take over the operations of the White House for at least a transitional period. But these Republicans, we are informed, can't get through to the President at all, don't know if their advice is being listened to, feel totally out of the lonely, steadily shrinking world of Richard M. Nixon.

7) The scandals have stopped dead in its tracks the tenuous, slow but highly visible movement of Southern Democrats into the Republican Party. Virginia's ex-Gov. Mills Godwin now won't turn Republican, as originally planned (but will, of course, accept the GOP nomination in his race for another term in the Statehouse). Some Deep-South Democratic congressmen, also under ardent Republican courtship for months, won't budge now. If ex-Treasury Sec. John Connally also stays out, as we think he will, Watergate will emerge with a major immediate political impact: a finger in the dike, at the very least, of Southern Democratic defections.

WATERGATE AND RICHARD M. NIXON

The enormity of what has happened in the brief month since McCord dropped his bombshell and started to squeal dwarfs any previous Presidential slide in modern history. Here are the major new situations now confronting Mr. Nixon with these unpredictable elements:

1) A fundamental change not only in the personnel of his White House staff but also in their mode of operation. Although we are cautioned by one White House aide not to jump to the conclusion that Bob Haldeman is through, we think the odds favor precisely that result by an overwhelming margin. With notably few friends anywhere in the government or the Republican party, Haldeman's scalp is being demanded at the very least as a token of the President's seriousness in cleaning house. Also due for dumping: John Dean. We think John Erlichman will weather the storm, but not unscarred. Possibly Press Secretary Ron Ziegler and other lesser lights will also go in an attempt to make a clean-sweep drama more credible.

2) The aura of success and invincibility that permitted RMN and the hated White House staff to lord it over the Republican party, Congress, the press, etc. is gone forever. If he can recover his own prestige, restore his leadership and weather the crisis of confidence, Mr. Nixon will have to lead a far more exposed political life, with the White House doors more open, with more independence granted to the GOP Senate and House campaign staffs and the Republican National Committee. For the GOP, this will be a sweet change. Watergate has already proved one political fact about Nixon about which we have often remarked in this Report: his remoteness and aloofness - the very attributes that probably aided in the Watergate trap being set by his own intimate aides without even being aware of the implications.

3) One major asset for RMN to come out of this disaster may be the recognition at last that the entire U.S. government cannot be run by the President and a few top aides insulated in the White House, with Cabinet and bureaucracy tossed to one side as White House tools, Congress overwhelmed by the Executive and the Republican party treated as a second-class servant. This Administration has been more of a one-man show than any other in history, with a couple of White House aides alone speaking with the full authority of the President.

4) A crashing discord that now makes suspect several major objectives of the Nixon Presidency, specifically law and order, the restoration of the integrity of the Presidency taken to such depths by Lyndon Johnson (said Nixon in the 1968 campaign), and the return of morality to national life. If, as appears probable as we go to press, ex-Attorney General John Mitchell, and "the President's lawyer", John Dean, are indicted by the grand jury, we find it hard to see any new situation that could permit Mr. Nixon to rise above such squalor and re-establish law and order as a fundamental object of his Presidency. On the contrary, the law and order jokes now going around this capital are themselves ruinous to the President.

5) The decline of his prestige at home will have a potentially huge impact on his prestige - and ability to operate - abroad, although no one can predict today just how much the U.S. may suffer. We feel that the U.S.S.R. is so tied in to the new Breshnev policy of detente, with all of its ramifications of trade, industrial build-up etc., that Mr. Nixon may get off clean. The larger danger areas, we feel, are in Europe and Japan, where his unbroken string of successes in ending the Vietnam War, getting re-elected overwhelmingly, etc. had given him powerful leverage, despite his lack of personal popularity. All that is gone now, and the West European and Japanese governments will quickly take advantage of it. Another danger spot: Indo-china, although to what greater degree than already is, again, problematical at this early date.

6) California Gov. Ronald Reagan is the immediate - and possibly very large - political winner in the wake of Watergate. His new assets: Mr. Clean (now a vital sine qua non for any future Republican Presidential nominee); the farthest from the scene of the crime; always known by party regulars as

deeply skeptical of RMN.

Vice-President Agnew has already flashed important signals of how he really feels about Watergate and the White House staff's guilt, but he's vulnerable with this insoluble problem: How can he find a position that does justice both to his public demands that he show his fury at Watergate without jeopardizing his relations with Mr. Nixon? One possible course: Agnew attacks the White House staff, which he has always loathed and which has used him mercilessly in the past four years, but make a clear differentiation between staff and the President. That could be dangerous to him also, but he has to make a large distance between himself and Watergate to have any chance in 1976. He is, after all, a member of the Administration.

New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller is a slight loser, because he is far more identified with Nixon than is Reagan. But the big loser is wheeler-dealer John Connally, Mr. Inside to Reagan's Mr. Outside. We think Connally has not only lost his chance to move into the Republican party, as RMN so ardently wanted, and capture the psychological lead for 1976, but his repeated procrastinations have now alienated the GOP regulars who wanted him two weeks ago when the going started to get rough.

WATERGATE AND POLITICS

We doubt some of the more extreme predictions we are now hearing in the full bloom of Watergate about total disillusion setting in across the country over basic political institutions. Our own talks with politicians and voters, including a sampling of voter sentiment with Oliver Quayle in a Republican portion of New York City's Queens, who a deep skepticism and cynicism which Watergate will deepen, but it is not a cause for extremist alarm. The real political impact, we feel, comes down to the following:

1) Far more public - and hence, Congressional - demands for tighter laws and controls on political spending. The Republican Committee-to-Re-Elect-the-President was a pit-deep in millions of unreported contributions that not only fed the most stupid plans of the most idiotic aides, but even then could not actually be spent, there was so much of it. Even GOP pros tell us the money revolted them and by itself bred much of the excesses that led to Watergate. "We had so much money", one top aide said, "that all the worst ideas were fundable."

When the grand juries and courts get through with the 1972 GOP financial illegalities, a whole new set of principles may be laid down for future laws. Watergate has galvanized what will probably turn out to be the most extensive probing of often routinely illegal campaign collection and spending in history. Watergate, in short, is going to be the carrier of an unprecedented airing of time-honored campaign spending atrocities certain to whip up more public rebukes than ever before.

2) Color the 1973 and 1974 elections gray. Obviously, the Republicans can't help themselves, but in elections without RMN on the ballot - which is to say all elections - we think it is too early to predict dire GOP defeats. Instead, we see: Much tougher going for GOP fund-raising; no pleas, as in 1969 and 1970, for Nixon to come in and help; far more independence by Republican candidates from White House influence. To be attacked by the White House could be the mark of distinction for GOP candidates this fall, a turn-around that will be highly pleasing to most candidates.

3) A solid, clean issue for the Democrats - corruption in government - that will last into the 1976 Presidential election. This plus the inflation-recession that now seems a likely mix for the next two years, gives the divided, defeated Democrats the best outlook they've had for many years.

But again, we caution: None of the soon-to-be-indicted present and ex-Administration figures will be running for office, nor will Mr. Nixon. Hence, the corruption issue is no sure-fire election ticket, just as the Teapot Dome scandal did not come close to producing a Democratic victory in the 1920's.

WATERGATE AND THE DEMOCRATS

Democratic National Committee Chairman Robert Strauss may buy national tv time on what must be expected of the Democratic party in the current political crisis: support the institutions of government and insist on full disclosure by the Courts and Congress of every piece of Republican chicanery.

Strauss, encouraged to take an initiative in setting forth party guidelines at this time, worries that the Democrats will spoil the obvious political gains now being garnered by RMN's acute embarrassment. How? By trying overkill, by posturing impeachment, and by too much public gloating and hand-rubbing. Instead, Strauss's message, now being delivered loud and clear to party leaders, is simple: look serious, treat the crisis for what it really is - a crisis of confidence in elected leadership - and demand total disclosure as a base for new campaign spending laws with real teeth.

Strauss also sees great potential in the Democrats' publicizing all over again the fact that RMN and the Republicans have deliberately down-played and virtually concealed the dollar check-off device for political party contributions on income tax returns. Strauss feels he can use the present White House crisis as a knob to turn the whole Republican party onto the idea, and we agree it makes excellent sense.

THE ECONOMY

The President has finally - and for the foreseeable future - said a hard, flat and (we think) politically disastrous "No" to those politicians begging for a return to Phase II, a freeze or something in between. Last week, Treasury Sec. George Shultz started to bend a bit, under the pressure from the White House which, in turn, was under pressure from outside economists. The deal was to tighten up, but so marginally and so much for cosmetic purposes (rather than anti-inflation reasons) that it might have been counter-productive. It was cancelled. As of today, we see no new anti-inflation actions on the horizon, which means:

- 1) The political reactions to rising prices will continue and worsen.
- 2) The labor contract negotiations will be far tougher - witness the Teamsters' demand for an 11% increase - than anyone in the Administration thought when Phase III was announced on January 11th.
- 3) AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany--furious over record profit margins--may break with Mr. Nixon and walk off the Cost-of-Living-Labor-Management Advisory Committee.

DEMOCRATS

1976 Presidential Sweepstakes: Sen. Edward M. Kennedy is lying low, as we have been reporting for months, but now Sen. Henry Jackson has staked out an advance position that is surprising many Democratic politicians by its depth, width, and scope. To wit:

- 1) It isn't generally understood that at Chicago Mayor Richard Daley's big political dinner this past winter Daley all but endorsed Jackson for the nomination. Daley has been very low on Teddy Kennedy for some time now, but his virtual endorsement of Jackson went far further than anyone thought

he would go.

2) Jackson has staked out the leading role on the Soviet Jewish emigration issue, which cuts to the heart of the American Jewish community, one of the most powerful of all elements in the Democratic party. Over RMN's wrath, Jackson has already forced the Soviets to suspend their emigration education tax, and still has 75 or more Senators with him on his amendment tying free Jewish emigration to most-favored-nation status for Russia. This guarantees that Jewish pocketbooks will open wide for Jackson in '76.

3) Jackson also has a leading role in the developing environmental-industry-energy civil war now breaking out. He's taking a hard line on total U.S. research effort to develop new oil-from-coal and shale techniques, putting him far ahead of the President's own rather spongy and mild energy message to Congress. Jackson's pro-development stance, though somewhat denatured with his traditional interest in ecology and environmental protection, gives him a leg up with business and industry, where he stands high already.

4) As the Democrats' Mr. Defense, Jackson will be the chief defender on the Senate floor in the forthcoming anti-Nixon defense budget battle. Defense is always a good safe issue-harbor for any Presidential aspirant, and Jackson has got it staked out all for himself.

Congressional Leadership: Carrying on our running commentary on the dramatic excesses of the Democratic leadership's stupidity in Congress, we can report that rank-and-file Democrats went home for the Easter recess furious with House Speaker Carl Albert. Albert allowed the Democrats to get beaten on a procedural vote last week involving the Jobs bill without ever taking a head count. Worse to some mid-level party leaders in the House, he stacked the House conferees on the economic controls extension bill with militants who wanted to roll back prices to January, an impossible and unworkable solution to inflation.

Although both Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield, a target of serious party unhappiness, and Albert are obviously safe for this Congress through 1974, the rebellion in the ranks is swelling and could explode in 1975.

STATELINES

New York: Although Rep. Mario Biaggi (D) hadn't delivered his self-defense tv speech as we went to press, we feel that the events of the past three weeks already have badly undercut his position as a leading New York City Mayoral contender, particularly with the Conservative party. Even before the fracas over what he did or did not tell a grand jury, Biaggi was running behind City Controller Abe Beame in the Democratic primary, and we are more convinced than ever that Beame will take it all later this spring.

Pennsylvania: The Nixon decline coupled with natural antipathy among GOP leaders for running Democratic Philadelphia Mayor Frank Rizzo has all but ruled him out for the GOP Gubernatorial nomination against incumbent Gov. Milton Shapp (D). Philadelphia District Attorney Arlen Specter now the likely GOP nominee.

*Richard Evans
Robert D. Nord*



Republican
National
Committee.

George Bush, Chairman

February 14, 1973

*Watergate
08*

#547-734 - Watergate

Dear

This will acknowledge your letter to Mr. Maurice Stans, former Chairman of the Republican National Finance Committee, expressing your views on the "Watergate" affair.

I have been involved in politics many years in many capacities and I can assure you that incidents of this kind truly are isolated.

I have always looked on politics as a noble profession and I continue to look on it that way. Politics is, after all, basic to our free system of government. My experience at the United Nations, where I worked with representatives of 131 different governmental systems, reinforced my belief that ours is the best by far. Any action - isolated as it may be - by any group or individual that casts a grubby, dirty connotation on politics is bad - not only for those involved but for the whole business of politics. It cannot be tolerated.

In this business, like all others, there are a few who believe the laws of the land and of good taste do not apply to them - but they are very, very few and they are in no way typical of the many honorable men and women of both parties who have chosen politics as their means of service to their country and her people.

We must not become so cynical ourselves that we fall prey to those cynics who point to this incident as representative of all political activity. That simply isn't true. The problem is that too many people have adopted the attitude that politics is dirty. Our job - and mine particularly as Republican National Chairman - is not to change politics but to correct that attitude about it.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION	CLASS.
1. Letters	Responses to RNC fundraising letters (32 pp.)	01/73	C	
COLLECTION				
George Bush Personal Papers Republican National Committee Files				
FILE LOCATION				
Chairman's Files 1973 - 8 - Watergate miscellaneous clips, etc. [1] OA/ID Number				
Date Closed 10/07/99				

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- F-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- F-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- F-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- F-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- F-5 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- F-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- F-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- F-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Photocopy - Preservation

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION	CLASS.
2. Letters	Responses to RNC fundraising letters (17 pp.)	01/73	C	
COLLECTION				
George Bush Personal Papers Republican National Committee Files				
FILE LOCATION				
Chairman's Files 1973 - 8 - Watergate miscellaneous clips, etc. [1] OA/ID Number				
Date Closed 10/07/99				

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- F-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- F-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- F-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- F-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- F-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- F-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- F-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- F-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet (George Bush Library)

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION	CLASS.
3. LetterS	Responses to RNC fundraising letters (12 pp.)	01/73	C	
COLLECTION				
George Bush Personal Papers Republican National Committee Files				
FILE LOCATION				
Chairman's Files 1973 - 8 - Watergate miscellaneous clips, etc. [1] OA/ID Number Date Closed 10/07/99				

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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet (George Bush Library)

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION	CLASS.
4. Letters	Responses to RNC fundraising letters (15 pp.)	02/73	C	
COLLECTION				
George Bush Personal Papers Republican National Committee Files				
FILE LOCATION				
Chairman's Files 1973 - 8 - Watergate miscellaneous clips, etc. [1] OA/ID Number Date Closed 10/07/99				

RESTRICTION CODES

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