

Nixon approved spying

House gets evidence

WASHINGTON — A White House-ordered domestic spying operation was outlined Thursday to House Judiciary Committee members who expect to decide whether President Nixon should be impeached for violating constitutional rights.

For the first time in 11 days of closed hearings, the 38 panel members received evidence tying Nixon directly to two of the three dozen impeachment allegations against him. He signed a memo in 1970 ordering domestic surveillance and ordered other wiretaps.

Less clear, members said, was whether Nixon had a direct hand in ordering wiretaps on the telephones of 17 persons from 1969 to 1971 other than for what Nixon has described as "national security" reasons.

Other evidence to be presented to the committee members later Thursday traces establishment of the

"plumbers unit" to plug White House leaks, their subsequent break-in at the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist and a job offer to the judge presiding in that case.

Rep. Walter Flowers, D-Ala., noting that the President had approved the spying operation plan in 1970, said other evidence presented to the committee showed that Nixon withdrew the order five days later, before it had been implemented.

Another member who did not want to be identified, said, however, "He knew it was illegal. He was told. He approved it anyway. And he didn't stop it until the late FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover pulled the chain on it. That's the guts of it — he didn't have the courage to stand up to Hoover. So when he says he put a stop to it, he's telling part of the truth, not the whole truth." Flowers said, "It bothers me that

he didn't check it out to find out whether it was legal before signing it, although it got torpedoed before it got implemented, fortunately."

On July 15, 1970, White House aide Tom Charles Huston circulated to White House officials a "top secret decision memorandum" which he said Nixon had studied and decided upon. The White House has acknowledged that Nixon signed the memo.

It outlined plans to use the FBI, CIA and military intelligence groups to tap telephones, intercept mail, burglarize and infiltrate college campuses to spy on persons "who pose a major threat to the internal security."

Huston said in the memo that Nixon was anxious to move quickly. Hoover was to head the domestic surveillance group, but his resistance has been credited for forcing its cancellation.

Unindicted co-conspirator: charge means involvement

WASHINGTON—Almost a year before a federal grand jury named him as an unindicted co-conspirator in the Watergate coverup, President Nixon said privately that any White House official in that position would be ordered to take a leave of absence immediately.

But a White House spokesman adamantly refused Wednesday to discuss the situation when asked if the President now is considering such action for himself in view of the grand jury's vote last February to name him as an unindicted co-conspirator.

"I'm not going to accept questions such as that relating to the President of the United States," deputy press secretary Gerald Warren told reporters with obvious irritation.

"I'm just not going to do it...I'm not going to debate this matter."

The edited transcripts of White House tape recorded conversations involving

Nixon show that the President spelled out his policy April 17, 1973, when he told Assistant Attorney General Henry Peterson "anybody that was an unindicted co-conspirator would then be immediately put on leave."

A moment before, Nixon had asked Peterson—then in charge of the federal Watergate investigation—to tell him what it meant if a person was named as an unindicted conspirator.

"That just means that for one reason or another we don't want to charge them at the time," Peterson replied.

"For example, I am indicted—you're named as an unindicted co-conspirator. You are just as guilty as I am but you are a witness—we are not going to prosecute you."

The subject came up according to the transcripts, because Peterson had advised Nixon earlier to expect an indictment charging Jeb Stuart Magruder, his deputy

re-election campaign manager, in the Watergate case and that other persons would be named as "unindicted co-conspirators." Among them, he said, would be Nixon's two top aides at the time, H.R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman.

Peterson assured Nixon that people would be named only to the extent of proof that they were involved.

"The one thing we can't afford to do is name, for example, former attorney general John Mitchell and then come up six months later without enough evidence to nail him," Peterson said.

"In other words, you are going to put in there people you know you can indict?" Nixon inquired.

"That's right," he was told. "I can consider that a charge?" the President asked.

"That's right," Peterson said. In a conversation with Nixon the day before, the transcripts show that Peterson told the President this in regard to Haldeman and Ehrlichman:

"We would name them at this point only as unindicted co-conspirators, but anybody who is named as an unindicted co-conspirator in that indictment (Magruder's) is in all probability going to be indicted later on."

The grand jury which named Nixon as an unindicted co-conspirator was said to have taken that position only after hearing special Watergate prosecutor Leon Jaworski say that it was highly doubtful that a current President could be indicted.

Nixon meets Faud



Richard Nixon

WASHINGTON — President Nixon met for more than two hours Thursday with Prince Faud of Saudi Arabia and was praised by the visiting dignitary for his peace making role in the Middle East.

The Prince, defense minister of Saudi Arabia and half brother of King Faisal, said Nixon's forthcoming trip to the region had become both a symbol of friendship and "of your United States efforts to work for peace and prosperity not only for the near Eastern area but for the world at large."

Faud, in this country to arrange for additional U.S. military assistance and a series of joint commissions to promote closer economic and social relations between the two nations, was honored at a White House lunch. Saudi Arabia will be a stop on Nixon's five-nation Middle East tour which begins Monday.

Faud, dressed in the traditional white robes, praised Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's recent marathon diplomacy in the Middle East that resulted in cease-fires between Israel and Egypt and Israel and Syria.

Kissinger's work, Faud said, "will be chalked up as an excellent, commendable, brilliant mark for the United States, for the United States' President, United States government and the United States people."

News From United Press International

Thieu: U.S. aid not sent

SAIGON — President Nguyen Van Thieu complained Thursday that South Vietnam has not received military and economic aid pledged by the United States despite continuing Communist aggression 16 months after the signing of the Paris cease-fire agreement.

"When we signed the agreement, we were promised very clearly that North Vietnamese troops would refrain from aggressing South Vietnam," Thieu said. "And if the aggression continued, we were promised there would be strong reaction" from the United States.

Thieu told 1,500 Vietnamese teachers at their annual congress in Thu Duc, six miles north of Saigon, that all American promises were "gone with the wind."

"We agreed that the United States pull out its troops with the condition that aid should be given to South Vietnam to support its economy and army," Thieu said economic aid is most important to half inflation.

"Now I can ask, does the United States keep its responsibilities, yes or no?"

Political observers said Thieu's strong public attack against the U.S. government was in response to U.S. Congressmen who have voted to cut aid to South Vietnam.

The U.S. Senate last month rejected a \$266 million request for ammunition in a

supplemental budget for 1974. Thieu said a general Communist offensive is under way.

"There are more than 400,000 North Vietnamese in the south but the world is unable to stop their aggression."

Twenty Hoa Hao Buddhists cut off the little fingers of their left hands Thursday to protest the government's refusal to meet seven demands including one for military chaplains of their sect and the right to form a

self-defense force.

More than 10,000 Buddhists rallied in Long Kien, a small Mekong delta town 90 miles southwest of Saigon, to see the 20 men approach a table in two groups of 10, pick up a hatchet with their right hand and cut off their fingers together on a signal from their leader.

About 2,000 faithful offered to cut off their fingers in protest but the Hoa Hao leader stopped the mutilation after the first 20 fingers had been severed.

Ehrlichman seeks former records

No ruling yet on subpoenas

WASHINGTON—The White House moved Thursday to quash a subpoena for records sought by former presidential aide John D. Ehrlichman for his defense in the Ellsberg conspiracy trial, claiming the demand was too broad.

President Nixon's chief Watergate attorneys, James D. St. Clair and J. Fred Buzhardt Jr., made the motion to U.S.

District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell on this deadline date for response to the May 31 subpoena for "any and all" records relating to the Ellsberg case.

There was no immediate ruling from Gesell, who will preside over the trial of Ehrlichman and three others, due to start June 17, on charges of conspiring to deprive the psychiatrist of Pentagon Papers defendant Daniel Ellsberg of his civil rights.

Also up in the air is final disposal of a May 22 subpoena issued by Gesell for the personal notes of Ehrlichman and former presidential special counsel Charles W. Colson—who entered a guilty plea Monday—with the threat the charges might be dropped unless the material was produced.

Under a compromise agreement on that subpoena, Ehrlichman began Wednesday evening to look over his old records at the White House.

As for the May 31 subpoena, St. Clair said

Ehrlichman had not made clear that the 32 specific items being sought were relevant, or demonstrated that the subpoena was "not intended as a general fishing expedition."

St. Clair said if Ehrlichman details his request for "specific, identifiable items that are relevant and material," the White House would examine them "to determine whether their disclosure would be consistent with the public interest."

In an attempt to work out a compromise on the earlier subpoena, the White House, special prosecutor Leon Jaworski and Ehrlichman's lawyers agreed the President's former domestic affairs adviser would be allowed to search his old files for information he believes he needs for defense.

Ehrlichman is the last remaining major figure connected with the White House special investigative "plumbers" still facing charges. He and the three others face trial for alleged conspiracy in the Ellsberg break-in case.

Israeli, Syrian POWs exchanged

BEIRUT — Israel and Syria exchanged the last prisoners of the October Middle East war Thursday, sending 56 Israeli servicemen to a rousing welcome home in Tel Aviv and 382 Syrian, Moroccan and Iraqi soldiers to a mob reception by 20,000 Arabs in Damascus.

Both sides said their men had been treated badly in captivity.

The exchanges cleared the way for the

withdrawal of troops and weapons from the Golan Heights front and establishment of a U.N. buffer zone separating the two forces.

Shortly after the POW exchange ended, Israel announced it had begun moving troops and armor back from the bulge of Syrian territory captured in the war in a scaling down process of its forces in the disengagement zone.

Military sources said heavy trucks and weapons carriers choked the rutted two-lane blacktop roads of the enclave as they headed westward behind what will be a new Israeli frontline by June 25.

"We have not evacuated any part of the enclave," an Israeli army spokesman said, "but there have been movements of troops and weapons."

A frantic Tel Aviv crowd almost knocked former Prime Minister Golda Meir off her feet. Mrs. Meir, new Premier Yitzhak Rabin and Defense Minister Shimon Peres turned out to greet the returning servicemen, most of them downed pilots or troopers captured on Mt. Hermon on the first day of the war.

It took Syrian police 45 minutes to clear a passage for buses to take the POWs straight to an undisclosed reception area.

The tradeoff came eight months after the Oct. 6 Arab attack that began the October war.

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