

Ehrlichman and Gray, Telephone  
April 15, 1973 10:16?-11:15? pm (a)

1 Voice: Conversation number thirty eight dash (·) sixty. (0.2) Portion of a [14.9]  
2  
3 1 telephone conversayshin between Jo:hn D.=Ehrlichmin? en L. Patrick  
4  
5 2 Gray. (·) ·hh This po:rshin uwas recorded on April fifteenth, ·h  
6  
7 nineteen sev'ndy three, °·hhh° at en unknow'n t\_s:i:me? between ten  
8  
9 sixtee:n, ·h en eleven fifteen p.m.<sup>3</sup>  
10  
11 (5.2) ((dead tape))  
12  
13 Ehrl: ...lo:, [15.3]  
14  
15 Op: I ev Mister Gra[y  
16 [ ]  
17 Ehrl: [Thank you.  
18  
19 (0.9) ((whirring click))  
20  
21 (0.2)  
22  
23 Ehrl: Pa:t? This? John Ehrlichmun.h=  
24  
25 Gray: =Ye:s [Jo:h[n.Good evening.  
26 [ [ ]  
27 Ehrl: [·h [ hah-  
28  
29 Ehrl: Did I findju et ho:me?  
30  
31 Gray: Yes.[Ah'm et ho:[me.  
32 [ [ ]  
33 Ehrl: 4 [·hh·hhayeh [-hheyahh •(Listen) I wunduh tell you thet uh:m,hh John  
34  
35 Dea:n.hh-hh-hhé has appa:rently: ·hh-·hh h-• ↓uh:m ↓uh: decided to: make  
36  
37 a clea:n breast of thin:gs with thē uh U.S. Attorney.  
38  
39 (·)  
40

40

<sup>1</sup> According to Emery (pp.330-1), this call was recorded in Nixon's office, with Nixon and Haldeman present.

<sup>2</sup> L. Patrick Gray III, Deputy Attorney General from 1971- May, 1972, when, upon J. Edgar Hoover's death, he was appointed by Nixon to be acting head of the FBI, a position he held during the FBI's Watergate investigation. [*The Watergate Hearings*, Profiles of Key Figures, p.832] He resigned on April 27, 1973 [Lukas, p.448].

<sup>3</sup> Gray, in his testimony before the Watergate Hearings (p.628), has the call occurring at "about 10:30 P.M."

<sup>4</sup> The bullet indicates a pop! in the recording.



1 Ehrl: =I see.  
2 (0.6)  
3  
4 Ehrl: •Okay ·hh Well it prob'ly wa:s. ·hh hē-[?n-  
5 [

6 Gray: [Is ther any way you c'n turn 'im o:ff?  
7  
8 Ehrl: No:.  
9 (0.3)  
10  
11 Gray: Hm?  
12  
13 Ehrl: No.  
14 (0.6)  
15  
16 Ehrl: °°(iss none.)°°  
17  
18 (0.5)  
19  
20 (Gray): °°hm°°  
21  
22 Ehrl: ·hhuhhh He·('s) out uff: out iff: uh,hh •any: any orbit thet  
23  
24 we, hh[h h h  
25 [

26 ( ): [heh ↑↑h[eh heh,↑] ((falsetto laugh))  
27 [ ]  
28 Ehrl: [heh huh ] cognize around hē:re ((smile voice))  
29  
30 Gray: Uh[hm,  
31 [———(1.2)———]  
32 Ehrl: ·hhu:ehhhehhhhh] So: I jis' wan' to alertche t<sub>gh</sub>o i<sub>ght</sub><  
33 |  
34 | (·)  
35 (2.1)  
36 Ehrl: | HMHHHHHHHH ·hmhhhh[hhhhh  
37 | [

38 Gray: What other things dih yih think he's gunnuh  
39  
40 talk abaht  
41 |  
42 (0.3) ((tlk-kl))  
43 |

44 Ehrl: ·tch! (0.2) mh<sub>rgh</sub> Wghē:ll ghhe:'s putting the mne<sub>gh</sub>h- Mn:.=Eez putting the best  
45  
46 face on: ·hhh h·is relations with uh: (·) Petersen: thet 'ee ca:n,  
47  
48 (0.3)  
49  
50 Ehrl: ·hhh C·'z Petersen az sart'v mo:ved in on the Prosecution.  
51  
52 (·)  
53

1 Gray: Ah hah,  
2  
3 Ehrl: ·p·hhh[hh  
4 [ ]  
5 Gray: [(W'l) what wiz 'ee doing things with P•eter[sen too?]=  
6 [ ]  
7 Ehrl: [whh  
8  
9 Ehrl: \_\_\_\_ •Yah. [whh (·) whh-hh (·) whhhhhh[hhhhh]hhhhh  
10 [\_\_\_\_(1.5)\_\_\_\_[ ]]  
11 Gray: | [I: see.]  
12 |  
13 (1.8) (1.7)  
14 |  
15 ((gn))  
16 |  
17 Ehrl: \_\_\_\_ •(But) uh,hmhm <sub>gn</sub>Yih might m:: yee might wan' take a loog itcher hole  
18  
19 car:d whur: he's c'ncern'. Cuz I don' kno:w (0.2) all the ins in outs iv yer  
20  
21 relationship er w=yihknow what (0.2) wh[•at  
22 [ ]  
23 Gray: 7 [Yeh the only thing I c'n do wih  
24  
25 this is d•eny it.  
26  
27 Ehrl: hOkay  
28 (0.4)  
29  
30 Ehrl: ·hhhhhhh  
31  
32 (·)  
33 (Ehrl): •(W'l)  
34 (·)  
35  
36 Gray: Yer nod [gunnuh ba:ck eem up are yuh?]  
37 [ ]=  
38 Ehrl: [°h h h h ° h h h h h h h h h h]  
39  
40 Ehrl: =·t·hhh •(a[h]  
41 [ ]  
42 (Gray): [°°( )°°

42  
<sup>7</sup> In contrast to Gray's highly detailed recollection of his June 28, 1972 meeting with Ehrlichman and Dean, his testimony on this phone call (p.628) is minimal:

“At about 10:30 P.M. on the evening of April 15, 1973, I received a call from Mr. Ehrlichman. His remarks were very short, terse and to the point. He simply told me that Dean had been talking to the prosecutors for some time and ‘we’ think you ought to know about it. It was obvious from his tone and the manner in which he spoke that no questions were invited and none were asked. I merely said thanks as he was hanging up the phone.

“I may have said ‘Good evening, John’ or ‘Hello, John’ when I picked up the phone and it is my firm recollection that he started talking right away and made no response.”

1 Ehrl: b-uh: I kin gn:n:yihknow:: mgn::ughh:: just (·) just uh, hh-hh >seh don' know  
2  
3 en'thing< about it. ixcept thet uwhat he told me.=  
4  
5 Ehrl: | =h~~mh~~-h~~mh~~ h~~mh~~-h~~mh~~  
6 (1.2) |  
7 ((tlk))  
8  
9 Ehrl: | °hhh° mBut uh,h·h he hez pah-uh: gm spent all: day dihd~~ay~~ wih the U.S. Attorney.h  
10  
11 (·)  
12  
13 Gray: | Mm hm•  
14  
15 Ehrl: | °whhhwhhhwhhhhhwh°  
16  
17 (0.4)  
18 (5.2)  
19 Ehrl: | °hmhhh° °p·tey·p·tuh°  
20  
21 (1.5) ((silence))  
22  
23 Ehrl: | ↑So:, hhuhhh 'at's about all I have duh tellyih fer the moment.hhhuhhh  
24  
25 Gray: | •hm  
26  
27 Ehrl: | •(En) ah'll keep yih postid if I ca:n.h  
28  
29 (0.3)  
30 Gray: | Qka:y=  
31  
32 Ehrl: | =↓Awright.  
33  
34 Gray: | Jo:hn,  
35 ((ggrup duh dup))  
36  
37 Gray: | Thank you [very much.  
38 [   
39 [((receiver down)) [17.5]  
40  
41 ((wrrrrrup))  
42  
43 (5.3) ((dead tape))  
44  
45 Voice: | This conclu:des the Abuse of Gover'mint Power segments, ·h fer  
46  
47 co:nversation number thirdy eight~~i~~ dash (·) sixty. [17.7]  
48  
49 8 ((duration of call: ca 2 minutes 10 seconds))

49  
<sup>8</sup> Gray testified that “Both of these calls were of extremely short duration, less than 15 seconds each”. (*The Watergate Hearings*, p.628)