

Nixon and Petersen, Telephone

April 16, 1973 8:58-9:14 pm

1 Voice: Conversation number thirty eight dash (·) eighty two. (·) Portion of [29.4]  
 2  
 3 a telephone conversation (·) between the President? ·h en hHenry E.  
 4  
 5 Petersin. ·hhh This portion was recorded on April sixteenth ·hh nineteen  
 6  
 7 sevendy three ·hhh between eight fifty eight ·h en ni:ne fourtee:n p.m.  
 8  
 9 (5.9) ((dead tape))  
 10  
 11 ((bd[p])) [29.7]  
 12 [ ]  
 13 ( )°: [( [ ] )  
 14 [ ]  
 15 Nixon: [H' llohh[h  
 16 [ ]  
 17 Op: [Mi[s t u h Peeti[↓sin.]  
 18 [ ] [ ]  
 19 Peters: [Yēs sir Mit' [P r e]s' [n'  
 20 [ ] [ ]  
 21 Nixon: [( ) [·hhh  
 22 [ ]  
 23 ( )°: ([thas wid[ah sih)  
 24 [ ]  
 25 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ [Didje get out with yer kids?=  
 26 |  
 27 Nixon: | =hhuhhuh  
 28 (0.4)  
 29 | (·)  
 30 |  
 31 Peters: \_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> ↑Oh::: she(h)rv w'r- they're he:re in we geh we: got tihggether w<sup>h</sup> 'em  
 32  
 33 (·)  
 34  
 35 Nixon: <sup>2</sup> •Well that's ↓goo[:d thetche]hhhh  
 36 [ ]  
 37 Peters: [End they:] jis' suud huu-eh (0.2) They all jist holluhd<  
 38  
 39 Nixon: [hmhh[hhh  
 40 [ ] [ ]  
 41 Peters: <sup>3</sup> [(0.2) [the President's cwalling right awnna noes et nine uh'clockh  
 42

42

<sup>1</sup> In standard orthograph, “↑Oh::: she(h)rv w'r...” would be shown as “↑Oh::: su(h)re we're-”

<sup>2</sup> The bullet • indicates a ‘pop!’ in the recording.

<sup>3</sup> In standard orthography, “cwalling right awnna noes” would be shown as “calling right on the noes”

- 1 Nixon: heh hu[h huh [·huhh ·hu]hh  
2 [ [ ]  
3 Peters: [hih hi[h ↑·i h h ]  
4  
5 Nixon: Well I wannidih gitche: ih-gitche in bed earlier dihnight then last night.=  
6  
7 ( ): =·huhh=  
8  
9 Nixon: =hRi[ght ·hh hEn I wanna get t'bed too:·heh[hh  
10 [ [ ]  
11 Peters: [Uh: [Yeah, [( )  
12 [ ]  
13 Nixon: [Uh: (·) lemme sa:y  
14  
15 \_\_\_\_\_ firs:t thet uhhmhhh  
16 |  
17 | ((tk)) [30.0]  
18 (0.4)  
19 | (0.3) ((dead tape))  
20 |  
21 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ eh: I yiss wanna know if ther'any developmints I sh'd noo about in:: sekkint  
22  
23 thet iv course iz zhu know anything you tell me:: ↓I- might ez. I↓ shold've t-  
24  
25 I think toldjer earlier will not be passed o:n.h[b'g'z hh ·hhh  
26 [ ]  
27 Peters: [I understain Mister Pres'n'=  
28  
29 Nixon: =Becuz I know the rules=the grand ↓jury.h[hhh  
30 [ ]  
31 Peters: [Uh:  
32 (·)  
33 Nixon: 'pu  
34  
35 Peters: <sup>4</sup> NQ:w, ·huhh u·uh uLeRue wiz in (0.5) en LaRue: (0.4) ·h huh: (0.2)  
36  
37 <sup>5</sup> [wuuss almost rathuh pitiful. Uh he came down with [O'Brien, ·hhhh=  
38 [ [ ]  
39 Nixon: [hmhhh [hmhhh  
40  
41 Peters: = e:n s·aid (he'd [want) private counsel (ho ever) it's gonna •(be w'd)=  
42 [ ]  
43 Nixon: [hmhhh

43

<sup>4</sup> Frederick Cheney LaRue, according to the 'Profiles of key figures' in *The Watergate Hearings* (pp.846-7), "was an intimate friend and political lieutenant of former Attorney General John N. Mitchell." Lukas (pp.351-2), describes him as "passing messages, briefing witnesses, delivering cash - the indispensable jack-of-all-missions." When LaRue was assistant to John Mitchell at the committee to re-elect, he was involved in the 'hush money' payments (Lukas, p. ), pleaded guilty to a charge of one count of conspiracy to obstruct justice, sentenced to one to three years, sentence reduced to six months (Jaworski, p.339).

<sup>5</sup> Paul L. O'Brien was hired in June, 1972 as one of the lawyers representing the Committee to Re-elect the President in the Watergate matter. John Dean (pp161-2) refers to O'Brien as a member of "the middle-level cover-up group", and as "serving as [one of the] intermediaries with Hunt."

1 Nixon: =hmh[hh  
 2 [ ]  
 3 Peters: [(tik) what 'ee (d)id)  
 4  
 5 (0.3)  
 6  
 7 Nixon: ·p·tk [What °hmhhhhhhhh° [hmhhhhhh]hh  
 8 [ [ ]  
 9 Peters: [ Becuz ·huhh he tol:d John Mitche[ll thet it was] (·) [·qu:te all over.  
 10 [ ]  
 11 Nixon: [·tlk  
 12  
 13 Peters: En[d quote,]  
 14 [ ]  
 15 Nixon: [wh hmh] ·t·hhh[uhh °huhh°  
 16 [-(0.5)-[ ]  
 17 Peters: [(°but° ·ahf uh[: )  
 18 [ ]  
 19 Nixon: [He said he id told John Mitchell °that?°=  
 20  
 21 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ =Yes.=  
 22 |  
 23 (0.3) =•((voice [in bkg.?))  
 24 | [ ]  
 25 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ [·hhh hh He:: [LihRue:: idmits tuh participating in the subornation=  
 26 [ ]  
 27 Nixon: [·h hh  
 28  
 29 Peters: =en obstruction of justice.=  
 30  
 31 Nixon: =·hh •Mm hm?hh[h  
 32 [ ]  
 33 Peters: [·hhhh u-Uh:::m [h e : : :  
 34 [ ]  
 35 Nixon: [hh hh-hh.  
 36  
 37 Peters: ·hehhh ·uh- idmits be[in' presint e:z Dean siz 'ee wa::s e[t uh (·) the third=  
 38 [ [ ]  
 39 Nixon: [hmhh [hmhhh  
 40  
 41 Peters: =(↓w<sub>gh</sub>uh voo) meedeen budget meetee[ng.  
 42 [ ]  
 43 Nixon: [hmhh  
 44  
 45 [(tchik))  
 46 [ ]  
 47 Nixon: [(Mm) hm:~?h=  
 48  
 49 Peters: =But uh::: ·h[h  
 50 [ ]  
 51 Nixon: [·tWho w'z who w'z prez it that meeting Henry I don't r[ecall ]  
 52 [ ]=  
 53 Peters: [He in]

- 1 Peters: =Mitchell.  
2  
3 (0.4)  
4  
5 Nixon: :pt :tch He en Mitchell alone?[hh  
6 [ ]  
7 Peters: [Uhyuh=And he say::s uhm- uh:::m=  
8  
9 Nixon: =•Uh LuhRu- u-LihRue in Mitchell?=I didn't uh ·huhyehh •that's one  
10  
11 meeting I seem to've missed=Dean w'z not there.=↓et that mee[ting.↓ ] [31.0]  
12 [ ]  
13 Peters: [·huhh]  
14  
15 hu Uh::m mn- ↑Dean tells us a↓bout it. (·) Now I em not quite cer'n wither  
16  
17 Dean wuz p<sup>h</sup>res'n er nawt.h •( ) meeting [wiz down in Flo]rida.  
18 [ ]  
19 Nixon: [ h m h h h h h h ]  
20  
21 Nixon: Oh:h=  
22  
23 Peters: =The[y-  
24 [ ]  
25 Nixon: [That-h some meeting it- Oh yah I- (·) I heard about that m[ih-m]eeting=  
26 [ ]  
27 Peters: °°[Yeh]°°  
28  
29 Nixon: =but uh ·hh think you tol' me about that.=  
30  
31 Peters: =E[n he] s:::ays eez relawct-eh [he's [relawctin' to uhm (0.3) tih [s a :]y :  
32 [ ] [ ] [ ]  
33 Nixon: °[Yah,]° [hmh[hmhhhh] [hmh] hmhhh  
34  
35 Peters: et this point. (0.4) •thet Mitchell [specivically auth'rized the budgih fih thih=  
36 [ ]  
37 Nixon: [hmhhh]  
38  
39 Peters: <sup>6</sup> =me:rictroni[c ea:vesdropping et that ↑point. ·hhhh Uh[: but I think eez gonna=  
40 [ ] [ ]  
41 Nixon: [hmhhh] [hmhhhhh]  
42  
43 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ =c'm arou:nd, he's j·ist  
44 |  
45 Nixon: (0.7) hmhhmhhh  
46 |  
47 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ (mg) m'n eez j·ust very fond'v John Mitche[ll.  
48 [ ]  
49 Nixon: [hmhhHmhm]:  
50 [ ]  
51 Peters: [He idmits that theh:

51

<sup>6</sup>“me:rictronic” in standard orthography would be shown as “electronic”.



- 1 Nixon: =p got another one [hhuh, ]  
2 [ ]  
3 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ [then 'ee] god'nother lawy<sub>gh</sub>er  
4 |  
5 | (0.2)  
6 | (0.5)  
7 Nixon: | :ptch  
8 |  
9 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ g n-'nd hē'll b[e back tuh]m<sub>gh</sub>orrow.  
10 [ ]  
11 Nixon: °[That's good]°  
12 |  
13 | (0.6)  
14 |  
15 Peters: | ·hh=  
16 |  
17 Nixon: =↓Mm[hm  
18 [ ]  
19 Peters: [Uh::,h (0.2) Now ·hhh h-  
20 |  
21 Nixon: | hmhh  
22 |  
23 Peters: | Uh,hh hh ·hh=  
24 |  
25 Nixon: =•So all yih got to dihday wiz LaRue↓: . [32.0]  
26 |  
27 Peters: ·hahh u-•Thet's right.h ·hh [ N o w , ]  
28 [ ]  
29 Nixon: [↓hMmhm,]hhh  
30 |  
31 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ u[h-Uh thē: im  
32 [ ]  
33 (∅): | [(uh)  
34 |  
35 | (0.6)  
36 |  
37 Nixon: (2.5) | hmh-hmhh  
38 |  
39 | ((hstlklah kl-k))  
40 |  
41 | (0.5)  
42 |  
43 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ •(So) all a[ddditional inf'rmation [fr'm::  
44 [ ] [ ]  
45 Nixon: [hmhh [·hh·hh• La Rue said he e:d (·) eh  
46 |  
47 (·) êthe(·)t 'ee said thet (·) he ed tɔl:d Mitch↓ell thet it w'z all over.↓=  
48 |  
49 Peters: =Y[es  
50 [ ]  
51 Nixon: [·hh·hh When did 'ee do tha[:t diyu[h,hh  
52 [ ] [ ]  
53 Peters: [·hh [Recently.

1 Nixon: °°Mm•hm?°°  
2  
3 Peters: Just recentlay. [T'day ye]sterday,  
4 [ ]  
5 Nixon: [Mm:hm?]  
6  
7 (0.3)  
8  
9 Peters: •day b'fore,=  
10  
11 Nixon: =t I: see hmhh  
12  
13 Peters: Yahn in deh (0.2)(ey) jus' throwin' in [d'sponge.  
14 [ ]  
15 Nixon: [hmhhh  
16 ((tchik))=  
17  
18 Nixon: =I get it  
19  
20 (0.2)  
21  
22 Peters: ·hhuhhyeahhh Uh•u[h,  
23 [ ]  
24 Nixon: [hmhhh  
25  
26 Peters: ·t·hheyuh< N•ow (0.2) guh-uh,[uh uh-we towked earlier t'day about uh=  
27 [ ]  
28 Nixon: [hmhhh  
29  
30 Peters: =abou[t Ehrlich↓min.  
31 [ ]  
32 Nixon: [hmhh  
33  
34 ( ): [( )  
35 [ ]  
36 [((tchik))  
37  
38 (0.3)  
39  
40 Peters: Now °↑u°-uh ::m  
41  
42 Nixon: ·t·plk·hh  
43  
44 Nixon: [hmhhh  
45 [ ]  
46 Peters: <sup>9</sup> [↑uh a lid'l addish'nal detail on that  
47

<sup>9</sup> It appears that Petersen got the “additional detail” that Liddy confessed to Dean (see below, p.8 line 3) from Assistant U.S. Attorney Earl J. Silbert. See p.18, line 41 to p.19, line 26, particularly p.18, line 45 Petersen’s “We’re still tying down facts with him [Dean]” and p.21, line 38 to p.22, line 9, particularly p.22, lines 5-9, Petersen’s “I’m not too quite sure when Dean said it uh Silbert (interviewed him).”

- 1 Nixon: *h•M-hm̩h[h*  
2 [
- 3 Peters: <sup>10</sup> [Uh uul:Liddy kinfess tuh Dea:n <ON:: nuh-June nineteenth.  
4 [
- 5 Nixon: [hmhhh  
6  
7 (0.4)  
8
- 9 Nixon: ·tch°June nineteenth.°hh  
10
- 11 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ Uh Ju:::ne <eh:::n ih-Dean nen told Ehrlichmin.  
12 |  
13 | (0.9)  
14 Nixon: (3.1) hmhm̩hhhh  
15 |  
16 | (1.6)  
17 |
- 18 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ Liddy confessed that he: (·) ↓wat did the deal?=er [what.=  
19 [
- 20 Peters: [°·hh°  
21
- 22 Peters: =·hhh Uh: thet he w'z present in the Wotergate.  
23  
24 [(tchk))  
25 [
- 26 Nixon: [Mm hm̩?h[hhh  
27 [
- 28 Peters: [Uh:m ·h then: (·) you also easked about C<sub>h</sub>olson< C<sub>h</sub>↑olsin::=  
29
- 30 Nixon: =h[hmhm  
31 [
- 32 Peters: [uh::: ·hhh ·h↑uh en Dea:n,=  
33
- 34 Nixon: =·t·hu:hh·  
35  
36 (·)  
37
- 38 Peters: uh i-were (·) tihgether with Ehrlichmi[n,  
39 [
- 40 Nixon: [hmhhh  
41
- 42 Peters: whē:n::  
43
- 44 (Ø): °(·t·h)°  
45

45

<sup>10</sup> The break-in was discovered in the early morning hours of Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1972. Lukas recounts (p.299) “At the White House that Monday, June 19, with the President and Haldeman still in Florida, John Ehrlichman had been put in charge of containing the burgeoning scandal. He, in turn, delegated much of that job to John Dean [who turned to] Gordon Liddy. [Dean] reached Liddy at the Finance Committee and they took a walk down 17<sup>th</sup> Street. . . .As Dean recalls it, Liddy conceded that the Watergate burglars were his men but blamed Magruder for ‘pushing him into it’.”



1 Peters: <sup>11</sup> •Ehrlichmin idvised a[vout (·) euh::: uHunt tih get out'v tao:wn,  
 2 [   
 3 Nixon: [hmhhhh  
 4   
 5 (Ø): ·h[·h [33.0]  
 6 [   
 7 Peters: [En (·) [there=efter::•[   
 8 [ [ [   
 9 Nixon: [hmhhh[h [Colson w'z the:re,  
 10   
 11 Peters: ·h Colsuh was there, so he's gonna be in the [gra:n' jury,  
 12 [   
 13 Nixon: [°hmhh°  
 14   
 15 (0.4)  
 16   
 17 Nixon: •(Mm) hmh=  
 18 [-(0.5)-]  
 19 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ =·hhuh=·e:hhh h•Uh::,[hmhh]  
 20 |   
 21 Nixon: | whhwhh  
 22 |   
 23 Peters: | ·pt  
 24 |   
 25 Nixon: (2.5) | whh  
 26 |   
 27 Peters: | ·pt·he:hh< a-  
 28 |   
 29 (0.3)  
 30 |   
 31 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ ↑i↓Thè• ih-uh eh iwth respec' to: (·) to [Halde[min uhnother=  
 32 [ [   
 33 Nixon: °[hQh- [Yeh°  
 34

34  
<sup>11</sup> Petersen got this from Silbert. See p.18, lines15-21, and pp. 20-21. In his opening statement at the Watergate Hearings (p.273) Dean says that the afternoon of June 19, “Ehrlichman instructed me to call Liddy to have him tell Hunt to get out of the country. I did this without even thinking. Shortly after I made the call, however, I realized that no one in the White House should give such an instruction and raised the matter. Colson chimed in that he also thought it unwise, and Ehrlichman agreed. I immediately called Liddy again to retract the request and he informed me that he had already passed the message and it might be too late to retract.” Dean gives a more detailed account in his book, *Blind Ambition* (pp.102-3). Ehrlichman, in his book, *Witness to Power* (p.317), has this to say about the matter: “Dean ... manufactured the story that I had instructed him to have Howard Hunt flee the country. Dean claimed I committed that bizarre felony in front of three witnesses at a meeting in my office at 4 P.M. Monday (June 19). The others at that session, Bruce Kehrli [a staff secretary] and Charles Colson, do not corroborate Dean; in fact, Colson tells me (and has sworn in court) that Dean told him that he, Dean, told Hunt to flee without any instructions from anyone.” Liddy’s version, in his book, *Will* (pp.338-341), supports Ehrlichman’s. During their conversation as they walked down 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Dean at some point says “ ‘Where’s Hunt these days?’ ‘Lying low. The reporters are after him. Why?’ It was at this moment, and not later, on the telephone after talking to Ehrlichman, that Dean said: ‘Well, for that reason, and what you’ve told me [which I took to be a reference to the Ellsberg matter], I think he’d be better off out of the country. . . .The sooner the better.’” Later that day, back at his office some “forty minutes” after delivering the message to Hunt, Liddy receives the call from Dean saying “ ‘Ehrlichman says cancel it.’ ” (The bracketted material re “reference to the Ellsberg matter” is Liddy’s.)

1 Nixon: =°Yeah hI [nuhhh°  
 2 [ ((krss))  
 3 Peters: [·pt umatter ·hhh [(-0.2-) h•uh in c'nnecs'h'n with thè (·) uh  
 4  
 5 •paymint=  
 6  
 7 ( ): =hh •hh  
 8  
 9 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ m:oney. [ e a f ]t e r  
 10 | [ ]  
 11 Nixon: | [i-Yah.]  
 12 (0.5)  
 13 | ((tink dok))  
 14 |  
 15 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ after: uh<sub>b</sub>m  
 16 |  
 17 | (0.2)  
 18 (0.8)  
 19 Nixon: | ·plp *khm*  
 20 |  
 21 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ ah[: :  
 22 |  
 23 (([blk]))  
 24  
 25 Nixon: th' fa[:c.hthhhh  
 26 |  
 27 Peters: [June seventeenth, ·hhéyahh •Uh (·) Mitchell: [-(0.4)-]  
 28 [ ]  
 29 °(( [hm↑hm]))°=  
 30  
 31 Peters: <sup>12</sup> fuh-to•:l[:d, Dea:n to activate Kalm[back.  
 32 [ ]  
 33 Nixon: [hmhhh] [hmhhh]  
 34  
 35 (0.5)  
 36  
 37 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ ·pt ·héyahhhh h[Uh::: Dea::n  
 38 | [ ]  
 39 Nixon: | [hmhh]  
 40 (0.4)  
 41 ( Ø ): | kh-hh kh[h  
 42 | [ ]  
 43 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ [(n•sit like) he didn' have that authority en he went tuh Ha:ldeman.  
 44 Nixon: | hmhh<

44

<sup>12</sup> Herbert H. Kalmbach was President Nixon's personal lawyer, completely devoted to the President's service. John Dean (*Blind Ambition*, p. 381) characterized Kalmbach as "one of the most likeable men I'd ever met". According to G. Gordon Liddy (*Will*, p.282), Kalmbach "was the kind who, were the ship sinking, would put *your* mother into the lifeboat before his own." Kalmbach became a key figure in the White House efforts to raise money for the Watergate defendants. He pleaded guilty in February, 1974, to a violation of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, and to promising federal employment as a reward for political activity and support of a candidate. He was sentenced to serve six to eighteen months in prison and fined \$10,000. After 6 months in jail he was released in January, 1975 with the sentence modified to time served (Jaworski, p.347).

1 (0.4) (·)

2 |

3 Nixon: | hHmh[m

4 | [

5 Peters: | [Haldemin ga:ve eem the authority. ·h[hh

6 | [

7 Nixon: | [Mm[h m ? ]

8 | [ ]

9 Peters: | [He th]en got in tuu:tch

10

11 with Kalmba:ck (0.2) t•o (a)rrange for:: (—0.[4—]) ma<sub>w</sub>ney the deta<sub>i</sub>ls=

12 | [ ]

13 (([wshh]ew wshhew))

14

15 Peters: =ev [which: we really don't know iz yet=

16 | [

17 Nixon: | [hmhhh

18

19 Nixon: =t uRight [°hmhh°

20 | [

21 Peters: | [So Kalmba:ck is al:so [—(0.4)—]·h wa<sub>w</sub> a gre•nd jirry witniss

22 | [ ]

23 (([tchitchuck]))

24

25 (·)

26

27 Nixon: °hmh° •(Right)

28

29 (·)

30

31 Peters: | tuh be ca:lled,

32 |

33 (0.2)

34 |

35 Peters: | ·hhhhhhhh[hh

36 (1.7) | [

37 Nixon: | [hmhhh

38 |

39 (·)

40

41 Peters: | h•U<sub>h</sub>,h<sub>hh</sub> hEn I think th<sub>e</sub>o:se er: [the only,h edd<sub>i</sub>sh'n<sub>l</sub> de[velo<sub>p</sub>m'n]ts=

42 | [ ] [ ]

43 Nixon: | [°°hhh°° [ R i g h t. ]

44

45 Nixon: =·hmhh ·plp What is yer: situ<sub>at</sub>ion with regard ↓duh: n-neegoti<sub>at</sub>ion with

46

47 •Dean a:nd uh: yer ne<sub>g</sub>oti<sub>at</sub>ion with regard to uh ·hh·hh·hh th•è ple<sub>a</sub> by

48

49 Magruder.hmh[h

50 | [

51 Peters: | [·t·heyuhh •We:ll? uh thē-:- (·) thē u[h

52 | [

53 Nixon: | [hmhh

1 | ((tak))  
2 | (1.4)  
3 | | (0.8)  
4 | |  
5 Nixon: | | ·plp!=  
6 | |  
7 Peters: =M'gr[ud e r' s l a w y e r s] hh[(er dih)  
8 | | [ | ] [ | ]  
9 Nixon: [J's tryin' dih get the t-] [try duh get the timing yuh see with  
10 | |  
11 | | regard dih whatever I ↓sa:y.=  
12 | |  
13 Peters: ='gruder's lawyers er still wait'nih git back to u[s. [34.0]  
14 | | [ | ]  
15 Nixon: [hhh·plp ·I ↓see.=  
16 | |  
17 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup> =hh Uh:: they're very much concerned abo[ut Judge Siri↓ca.=  
18 | | [ | ]  
19 Nixon: | | [hmhh  
20 | | (0.6)  
21 Nixon: | | =·p (0.3) ·pt [k'kyah  
22 | | [ | ]  
23 Peters: | | [En::d uh [heyahh now [they're not so much concer[ned about=  
24 | | [ | ] [ | ]  
25 | | (([dlk dluk)) [(([dlk)) [ | ]  
26 | | [ | ]  
27 Nixon: | | [hmhhh  
28 | |  
29 Peters: <sup>14</sup> = uh uh:m (0.2) huh::[: °hhhh<° (0.2) °hu° (·) hUh::, S•enator-Erwin,  
30 | | [ | ]  
31 Nixon: | | [hmhhh  
32 | |  
33 | | (0.2)  
34 | |

34

<sup>13</sup> Judge John J. Sirica, according to Lukas (pp.412-14) “proved worthy of his courthouse nickname, ‘Maximum John.’ To five of the [Watergate] defendants he gave the maximum terms permissible under the law — forty years each to Bernard Barker, Eugenio Martinez, Virgilio Gonzalez, and Frank Sturgis, thirty five years to Howard Hunt. [(March 23, 1973)] But he made those sentences ‘provisional’ and said he would review them after three months and after the defendants had had an opportunity to cooperate with other investigators. Although the crimes they had committed were ‘sordid, despicable, and thoroughly reprehensible,’ he said, they might mitigate their sentences ‘if you testify openly and completely...’ before the Ervin committee and the grand jury.” Lukas goes on: “To warn the five men what might happen if they did not cooperate, Judge Sirica gave Gordon Liddy an extraordinarily severe sentence, this one with no provision for review.” Lukas quotes a remark of Liddy’s: “I really can’t be too critical of John Sirica because John Sirica and I think alike. He believes that the end justifies the means. He puts that into practice. He does what is necessary.” Lukas then notes: “Some civil libertarians made exactly the same point. Joseph L. Rauh, Jr., former national chairman of Americans for Democratic Action, has found it ‘ironic that those most opposed to Mr. Nixon’s lifetime espousal of ends-justifying-means should now make a hero of a judge who practiced this formula to the detriment of a fair trial for the Watergate Seven.’ Chesterfield Smith, president of the American Bar Association, is ‘concerned about a federal judge — no matter how worthy his motives or how much we may applaud his results — using the criminal sentencing process as a means and tool for further criminal investigation of others.’ And Monroe Freedman, Dean of the law school at Hofstra University, says, ‘Sirica deserves to be censured for becoming the prosecutor himself.’ To such complaints, Judge Sirica calmly replied, ‘I don’t think we should sit up here like nincompoops. The function of a trial court is to search for the truth.’”

<sup>14</sup> Senator Sam J. Ervin of North Carolina introduced a resolution to allocate \$500,000 for a Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities to investigate the Watergate break-in and related allegations, which was unanimously approved by the Senate on February 7, 1973. The televised Hearings opened on May 17, 1973, with Ervin as Chairman.

1 Nixon: [hhyeh  
 2 [   
 3 Peters: [y<sub>gh</sub>ihknow ther immediate kincer::n is is Sirica en they want that ironed  
 4  
 5 out first. ·hhueyahh · Uh,=  
 6  
 7 Nixon: =W'l wuhddih they wan' ironed out.=thet uh ukhhwhhu· (·) thet ·hhh=  
 8  
 9 Peters: =·thet he won' go dih jail before the ↑rest ↓of thum.↓h  
 10  
 11 (0.4)  
 12  
 13 ((tchk))=  
 14  
 15 Nixon: =Oh.hhh ↓I see.↓  
 16  
 17 Peters: hUh::=  
 18  
 19 Nixon: =If 'ee confesses  
 20  
 21 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ That's right.  
 22 |  
 23 (Ø): | (heh hh·ah)  
 24 (0.8) |  
 25 | (0.2)  
 26 |  
 27 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ Uh::m  
 28 |  
 29 (0.2)<sup>15</sup> | ((↑ pfft·))  
 30 |  
 31 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ (Th:[et's)  
 32 | [   
 33 Nixon: (0.3) | [hmhhhhh  
 34 |  
 35 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ yihknow pending of uh:[m, un u]n the  
 36 | [ ]  
 37 Nixon: | [pfwuhh ]  
 38 |  
 39 (0.9) | (0.7)  
 40 |  
 41 (Ø): | °°hhu[:h°°  
 42 | [   
 43 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ [·plp!=  
 44  
 45 Peters: =un the meeting with Judge S'rica [e -: n ]  
 46 | [ ]  
 47 Nixon: °°↓[Mm°° w]hich you've gotta have I  
 48  
 49 s'po[se.  
 50 [   
 51 Peters: [·hheyah=

51

<sup>15</sup> For the next few lines, a sound can be heard that might be ambient noise or a voice in the background.

- 1 Peters: <sup>16</sup> =•(Well th') probl'm w'th- ↑Titiss knows eem better **thin** nany ↓of us↓=  
2  
3 Nixon: <sup>17</sup> =hhn°Awkeh°  
4  
5 (·)  
6  
7 Nixon: [ Su:re? ]  
8 [ ]  
9 Peters: [So prob]ably Titiss will ha<sub>e</sub>ndle that a:<sub>gh</sub>spect of it=  
10  
11 Nixon: =Mmhm?  
12  
13 (0.2)  
14  
15 (Peters): ·p·hahh•  
16  
17 Peters: ( ) but thet's:: (·) gotta be very  
18  
19 Nixon: (Let[?'s pley<]) ·p·t  
20 [ ]  
21 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ [ carefly ] do:ne he ez he's out tuh blast us all ↑publicly.  
22 |  
23 | (0.4)  
24 (1.1)  
25 Nixon: | °°((swallow))°° khh [·plp  
26 | [ ]  
27 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ [(hop a[wdin aw) ]  
28 [ ]  
29 Nixon: [Oh it=Siric]a. hhéRi[ght.  
30 [ ]  
31 Peters: ([Yah)  
32  
33 (0.2)  
34  
35 Peters: ·t·hhhh h•U<sub>h</sub>:: (·) h•en then uh,h (·) yuhknow vuh [wi'll be: then wi'll take=  
36 [ ]  
37 Nixon: [hmhhhhh  
38  
39 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ =up the (·) [uh (on the) Erwin (i•ssue)  
40 [ ]  
41 Nixon: | [·pt hmhh hmhh  
42 (0.6)  
43 Nixon: | °°·he:iye<sub>h</sub> °°=  
44 |  
45 (Peters) \_\_\_\_\_ =•( )  
46 |  
47 Nixon: (0.6) °°·heyuh hmhh°° [35.0]  
48

48

<sup>16</sup> Harold Titus, U.S. Attorney, who with his assistants, Earl Silbert and Seymour Glanzer, was the prosecutor before the grand jury investigating the Watergate break-in, etc.

<sup>17</sup> In standard orthography, “hhn°Awkeh°” would be shown as “hhn°Qkay°”

- 1 Nixon: \_\_\_<sup>18</sup> ·pt That doesn't seem di<sub>h</sub> be (thè rih)=major issue ↓thou:gh *huh*=*huh* prub'l I  
2  
3 kin see: that the main thing is Sirica he's concerned [a b o u t .]  
4 [ (W'l) thet ]'s ri[:ght, ]  
5 Peters: [ ]  
6 [hmhh]h=  
7 Nixon:  
8  
9 Nixon: =Sure c'ss uh: er Ervin thing'll become moot 'n my 'pinion,*h[h*  
10 [ ]  
11 Peters: [N<sub>Q</sub>:w, ih-thē  
12  
13 other concern we hev on that eessue is uhm yihknow h<sub>e</sub>ow we cha:rge,  
14  
15 (0.7)  
16  
17 Nixon: •(How we) charge uh::,*hmh[h*  
18 [ ]  
19 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ [in terms of uhm  
20 |  
21 (0.8) (·) ((tchk)) (0.4)  
22 |  
23 Peters: \_\_\_uh:: uh::: (·) •Magruder in terms of the (·) prejudicial publicity in,*h en: uh*  
24  
25 ·h[h  
26 [ ]  
27 Nixon: [R•(ight)  
28  
29 (0.2)  
30  
31 Peters: en. naming the indivijools.  
32  
33 (0.2)  
34  
35 Peters: Uh: ·hh[h •↑One a'the things that conc•erniz us eh: is we don't feel like=  
36 [ ]  
37 Nixon: [*hmhh*  
38  
39 Peters: =we ouwgh<sub>ta</sub> put ·hhhh •Haldemin'n Ehrlichman in the:re?  
40  
41 (0.2)  
42  
43 Peters: <sup>19</sup> ez unindIdee c<sub>e</sub>onspiraters it this ↑poi:nt,  
44  
45 (0.2)  
46  
47 Peters: •Uh: but wi'r afrai<sub>ec</sub>d ↑not t<sub>e</sub>o↓:.  
48  
49 (0.3)

49

<sup>18</sup> The italicized "*huh huh*" is not laughter, but two rapid outbreaths. In a less detailed transcript it would appear as "hh hh".

<sup>19</sup> In standard orthography, "unindIdee c<sub>e</sub>onspiraters" would be shown as "undicted co-conspirators".





- 1 (0.5)  
2  
3 Nixon: •be made'n open c<sup>h</sup>ourt en yu-<sup>h</sup>en then you would make a statemint?=thet thē  
4  
5 other::s you'd name them et that °time?°hm[hh  
6  
7 Peters: [We:ll w:ē- foof-uh n<sub>a</sub>o we  
8  
9 22 wouldn' do it'n th<sub>a</sub>ose terns wi'd simply: dī- eh do it'n terms of speedeeng the  
10  
11 fac's tuh the ↑court.  
12  
13 Nixon: ·t ·p·t ·huhhh ·p[tl  
14 [ ]  
15 (Peters): [·( )]  
16  
17 Nixon: That would be done, public↓ly.=Wouldju↓ name Mitchell then °too°?=  
18  
19 Peters: =Well wi'd °↑haf ↓t<sub>e</sub>o.°  
20  
21 (0.3)  
22  
23 Peters: Yuh s[ e e ] t h è ]  
24 [ ] ]  
25 Nixon: [B't tha]t would a]ll=  
26  
27 Peters: 23 =↑problem i↓::s ·h[h  
28 [ ]  
29 Nixon: [·('d) all be done in open court.h[hmh  
30 [ ]  
31 Peters: [That's right. Once we  
32  
33 do [↓th<sub>gh</sub>at uh ·hh or even eef we ↑↑don't.h  
34 [ ]  
35 Nixon: [hmhh  
36  
37 (0.6) (·)  
38  
39 (Nixon): | ·hu:hh  
40  
41 Peters: | u·h (·) Sirica's ha:bit in custom in eez cert'nly gonna do it'n this ↓ca:se ·hhh  
42  
43 •(to in)terroga:te the defendant himself.  
44  
45 Nixon: ·pltp Right.  
46  
47 Peters: ·hhh En ef he in[t e r r o g i h]  
48 [ ]  
49 Nixon: > [A defendan]t who< pleads gui↓dy.=

49

<sup>22</sup> The first occurrence of 'terms' is pronounced "terns", as shown. The second is pronounced "terms".

<sup>23</sup> Again (cf p.15, fn 15), it *sounds* as if Petersen cuts off his inbreath, but it may be that the pop! is rendering the continuing inbreath inaudible.

1 Nixon: =*hhu*[*h*  
2 [  
3 Peters: [That's ri:ght. Ef ↑he interrogates Magruder, (0.3) ·*hh*h ·an' breengs

4  
5                   <sup>24</sup> aou[t thē, Ehrlichmin Ha:ldemin fa:ks:  
6 [  
7 Nixon: [*hh*h  
8  
9                   (·)

10  
11 Nixon: •Mm[hm  
12 [  
13 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ [An' we: heven' mentioned um er includid um in thē,*h*=  
14 |  
15 Nixon: | | =*hmhh*  
16 |  
17 (1.3)                   (1.0)  
18 |  
19 (Nixon): | | ·p=  
20 |  
21 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ =c•onspiracy cha:gh rge.  
22  
23 Nixon: Ri'.

24  
25 Peters: ·*hh*h •(End) then wi'r all gonna have a black eye  
26  
27 Nixon: ·plk I: getcher ↓poin[t.  
28 [  
29 Peters: [*·heyah* S•o these er the **th**ings wi'r tryin' duh work gout=  
30  
31 Nixon: <sup>25</sup> =°*hmhh* *hm-hm-hm-hm*° • heh-huh ·*hh*h Yeev got quite a plate full, you  
32  
33                   <sup>26</sup> prob'ly won' get it tihmorruh then hooyuh.[*hh*h  
34 [  
35 Peters: [*·hh*h I doubt it,*h* I dou•(bt it)  
36  
37 Nixon: Mm:hm,*h*  
38  
39                   (0.5)  
40  
41 Nixon: ·pah •And uh: what about Dean ↓now in: uh↓ his case you've uh ·*hh*h still  
42  
43 negotating uh,=  
44  
45 Peters: =Uh we:ll, (·) we're still tyin' dow:n facts *whith* heeum we wanna git ez much  
46  
47 ez we ke:n.  
48  
49                   (0.5)

49

<sup>24</sup> In standard orthography “faks” would be shown as “facts”. It is pronounced as such at line 45, below.

<sup>25</sup> The soft, pulsed outbreaks “°*hmhh* *hm-hm-hm-hm*°” are not laughter

<sup>26</sup> In standard orthography, “hooyuh” would be shown as “will you”.

- 1 Nixon: •Mm°h[m°  
2 [ ]  
3 Peters: [(Uhm uhn)• (·) N[o\_w ]  
4 [ ]  
5 Nixon: [In ba]sically with hi:m: yer=  
6  
7 Peters: =·h[hh  
8 [ ]  
9 Nixon: [’n the point is you’ve gotta ged ’nough faks to: to justify giving ’im uh:  
10  
11 ·h himmunity right?  
12  
13 Peters: Nuh tuh make the decision yer sir  
14  
15 (0.2)  
16  
17 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ •Mm°hm°  
18 |  
19 (0.7) ((tchk tak)) (·)  
20 |  
21 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ ’pends on how much he tells↓zhu is that it,hn  
22  
23 (·)  
24  
25 Peters: •That’s correct en hè en how much iv it ’n more th’n that how much’f it we  
26  
27 kin corroborate.h  
28  
29 (0.4)  
30  
31 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ •Hm.  
32 |  
33 (Ø): (1.4) °°h hmhh hmh hmhm°°=  
34 |  
35 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ =•(Ivvih) (·) can’t corroborate enough, then hhe doesn’ git off.=Is that it?[hh  
36 [ ]  
37 Peters: [·hhh  
38  
39 Peters: Well if iwe ca,n’t corroborate [it uh:.,[ (·) that’s ↑right:t.=We can’t very well=  
40 [ ] [ ]  
41 Nixon: [hmhh [°°wuhh°°  
42  
43 Peters: =immunize hi:m: [en: put hi]m head tih hea,d against a witness who’s gonna=  
44 [ ]  
45 Nixon: °↓[M<sub>gh</sub>m hm]°°  
46  
47 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_<sup>27</sup> =(beedeeb)  
48 |  
49 (0.4) ((tk ptk))  
50 |  
51 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ h•I °see:° hmhh °↓hmh°=  
51

<sup>27</sup> With a gun to my head, I’d standard-orthographize “beedeeb” as “beat him”

- 1 Nixon: =°°·hmhh hm[h°° Well his people er playing it uh:: pretty tough=  
2 [ ]  
3 [((twk))  
4  
5 Nixon: =with ↓yuh [then.]↓  
6 [ ]  
7 Peters: [iYes ]sɪ:r,=  
8  
9 Nixon: =·plk °°·hmh°° ·p I guess we'd do that too I ↓s'po:[ze it's↓]h ·h  
10 [ ]  
11 Peters: [Indeed] so.=  
12  
13 Nixon: · hhh (0.2) n·atural fer them dih do that hmh ·lp·hihh Lemme see if I get  
14  
15 28 thē uh faks in:: eh:z (0.2) You'll hear Shtrahn dihmorrow perheps?hmhhh  
16  
17 Peters: ·t·huhh U·h yes. We ixp·ect ee'll be in:  
18  
19 Nixon: ↓M<sub>gh</sub>mh<sub>gh</sub>m=  
20  
21 Peters: =him: duh c'min [with iz lawy]er aga[in  
22 [ ] [ ]  
23 Nixon: [·p·hh·hh ] [En ar sekkint point is thet uh: (0.7)  
24  
25 •thet uh↓::: (0.2) thet uh↓::: (0.3) °mthet° (0.2) Lemme see abaht thē thē-thē  
26  
27 29 n:jih- the nyn<sup>t</sup>teenth you say ↑Dean say:s thet ↓uh eh-no uhr: ·huh·hehh  
28  
29 Peters: (Th·et) on the nineteen[th  
30 [ ]  
31 Nixon: [↓Yah.hn[hh  
32 [ ]  
33 Peters: [thet L:iddy confess' tih Dea:n<sup>t</sup>  
34  
35 (1.0)  
36  
37 Nixon: •('N) Dean says thath  
38  
39 Peters: Dean says °that,h°  
40  
41 Nixon: •Thet Liddy confess' tuh him, en thet hhe told Ehrlich↓man.h=  
42  
43 Peters: =Theh he told Ehrlich↓man  
44  
45 (0.4)  
46

46

<sup>28</sup> Gordon Creighton Strachan is described in the preface to *The Watergate Hearings* (p.50) as having “been the conduit between Mitchell/Magruder on the one hand and Haldeman/Nixon on the other.” Strachan was one of Haldeman’s assistants and ‘ticklers’-- putting pressure on subordinates to make sure things got done. He received transcripts of materials recorded in an earlier Watergate break-in. Everyone who writes about Watergate takes it that if Strachan knew, Haldeman knew.

<sup>29</sup> See pp.8-9 re “Liddy confessed to Dean”

- 1 Nixon: M•m°hm°hmhhh  
2 (1.0)  
3
- 4 Nixon: Mmhm:hmhh  
5  
6 (1.0)  
7
- 8 Nixon: ·p(Uh) thet's a ne:w fact isn' it?hmh  
9
- 10 Peters: Uh:: it's et leas:t ih Yes sj:r.  
11
- 12 Nixon: Mmh[m  
13 [
- 14 Peters: [En::d uh ·huhh it could• Thet uh (1.9) that's a t•erribly imp<sup>h</sup>ortant fact I  
15  
16 thi:nk (0.2) uh be•cause (of) no disclosure ma:de by e<sub>u</sub>ither one of ↓u<sub>gh</sub>m.  
17
- 18 Peters: ·p·hu[hh  
19 [
- 20 Nixon: [•Yih  
21
- 22 Peters: ↑·huhhhh  
23  
24 (0.3)  
25
- 26 Nixon: •( ) nēither Dean or uh hhh ·plp °Ehrlichman.°  
27
- 28 Peters: Yes [sir,  
29 [
- 30 Nixon: °[hh ·hh°  
31  
32 (0.6)  
33
- 34 Nixon: Hm:  
35  
36 (0.9)  
37
- 38 Nixon: <sup>30</sup> ·plp Wh•( ) Dea:n say this:.  
39  
40 (1.6)  
41
- 42 Peters: Mm: •[( )  
43 [
- 44 Nixon: [(But) [Dea:n]  
45 [ ]
- 46 Peters: [( ] ) [told m:e] this e:vening  
47 [ ]
- 48 Nixon: [ih-Dee-] eh  
49  
50 (0.2)  
51

51

<sup>30</sup> Given Petersen's response, Nixon is probably asking "When did....".

- 1 Nixon: *h•I-*  
2  
3 (0.2)  
4  
5 Peters: *è-I<sub>gh</sub> I<sub>gh</sub>d'm naat too goo quite sure when Dean said it uh[::: Silbert ]*  
6 [ ]=  
7 Nixon: [Yeh Dea:n]  
8  
9 Peters: [(i n t e r v i e w e d] i m ) ]  
10 =[ ] ]  
11 Nixon: [Yih see the point] *ith* Dean didn't- (·) °Dean didn't tell me ↓that. That's  
12  
13 a' thing thet discourages me.*hh•(huhh) ·hyimh=*  
14  
15 Peters: =p·*huhh* Well, u mean Mister Presiden' we haftuh remember thet de:t [39.0]  
16  
17 uh wi'r dihbrie<sub>feeng</sub> heem awn what's: transpired over the la<sub>yu</sub>st eighteen  
18  
19 mu:nts  
20  
21 (0.2)  
22  
23 Nixon: ·plk ·I ↓see=  
24  
25 Peters: =It's very difficult (·) yihknow duh get it all: in,  
26  
27 (·)  
28  
29 Nixon: •I know I'm no[t talking about you] but I'm talk]ing about what 'ee didn't=  
30 [ ] ]  
31 Peters: [(n o w e r t o o ] w a h l we]  
32  
33 Nixon: =tell me yih see,  
34  
35 Peters: Yes °°[I see,°°  
36 [ ]  
37 Nixon: [°°*hmhh*°° (So) thet's a key: fact thet 'ee shoulda tol' me isn't  
38  
39 Peters: ·*huhhhhh* •(Well) yes,*hh* ((unhappily conceding))  
40  
41 (0.4)  
42 Nixon: Hm•  
43  
44 (1.1)  
45  
46 Nixon: *hHmhm?hmhh*  
47  
48 (1.1)  
49  
50 Nixon: *hmhhh*  
51 (·)  
52  
53 Nixon: ·plk °°·*hh·hh*°° hEn let's ↓see the↓ (·) Ness see thet's (0.2) uJ·une:: the

- 1 Nixon: nyn,teenth. °°·huh·hēhh°° •And uh:mhh hon thē uh (0.2) ·p •(thè) (0.2)  
2  
3 \_\_\_\_\_ uHaldeman thing wudjih hev there agai:n so I get that'n myn,  
4 |  
5 (0.3) ((tchhk))  
6 |  
7 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ •Mmhm<sub>gh</sub>[m  
8 | [\_\_\_\_\_  
9 | (([tchk))  
10 (0.3)  
11 | (0.2)  
12 |  
13 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_<sup>31</sup> hhehh ·hēhh!  
14 |  
15 | ((thk))  
16 |  
17 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_<sup>32</sup> °Mh.° Lemme kuh back ov'r my notes (ull::) ·hhh Thè- the princib'l thin:g  
18 |  
19 | thed I wundid duh point out tih you awn Haldimin is [uh thet thet Dean went=  
20 | [\_\_\_\_\_  
21 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ [°°Uhyēh°°  
22 |  
23 Peters: =tuh Haldem'nih git a'thority dih go tuh Kalmba<sub>gh</sub>kh  
24 |  
25 | (0.2)  
26 |  
27 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ Oh yes:. Yes yes. That wiz it.=  
28 |  
29 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ =·ihēyuhh  
30 |  
31 (0.9) (0.4)  
32 |  
33 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ h•( [\_\_\_\_\_] )  
34 | [\_\_\_\_\_  
35 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ [After-When Mitchell:. Mitchell told 'im dih go duh Haldemanh  
36 |  
37 Peters: (0.5) ·hhh h•( [\_\_\_\_\_] ) [Mitchell tol:d Dean simply dih activate K<sup>h</sup>almbak tih h<sub>c</sub>andle=  
38 | [\_\_\_\_\_  
39 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ [Right?  
40 |  
41 Peters: =the money  
42 |  
43 | ((tchk[tk))  
44 | [\_\_\_\_\_  
45 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ [I ↓see.  
46 |  
47 Peters: Uh: Dea:n then went tuh Hal:demin, t·ih [(give) autho]rity dih Kahmbak=  
48 | [\_\_\_\_\_] ]  
49 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ [ R i g h t ]  
50

50

<sup>31</sup> The “hhehh ·hēhh!” is laughter<sup>32</sup> The first segment of Petersen's utterance, “Lemme kuh back...” is in ‘smile voice’.

- 1 Peters: =<sub>gn</sub><uh tih conta[ct<sub>u</sub> Kalmba]ck  
 2 [ ]  
 3 Nixon: [ Come i n ]  
 4  
 5 (0.4) °((whhht))°  
 6  
 7 Nixon: ·p!  
 8  
 9 Peters: <sup>33</sup> ·( )n:d uh th:ere=etter Ka:lmbak took care a' the money.=  
 10  
 11 Nixon: =°°hmhh°° ·°°m-hm°°  
 12  
 13 Peters: ·hhhh  
 14  
 15 °°((tchkuh))°°  
 16  
 17 Peters: ·hh N•ow (the) ↑details awn the [three hunder'n fifty thaous'n dollars which=  
 18 [ ]  
 19 Nixon: [°°hmhh°°  
 20  
 21 Peters: =uh ·hh[h uh (0.4) y•ou indicated]u you knew abaout uh ·h[h [40.0]  
 22 [ ]  
 23 (([dup dup]) [ ]  
 24 [ ]  
 25 Nixon: [I knew about the  
 26  
 27 pf:fund ↓I don'kno[:w I↓ don'know how]it all: went]  
 28 [ ]  
 29 Peters: [Y e s. ( w e m a y ] iv develo]ped.)h  
 30  
 31 Nixon: •I ↓see.  
 32  
 33 (·)  
 34  
 35 Nixon: Yih 'aven'[got tha[t (worked)]  
 36 [ ] [ ]  
 37 Peters: [(But) [ t h a : t i]z iz related to us ez mohney (·) over which  
 38  
 39 ·hhhh eh-Haldeman exer[cised contro:l:h h•En that mohney w'z delivered=  
 40 [ ]  
 41 [((tswshh))  
 42  
 43 Peters: =to LaRue::.  
 44  
 45 (·)  
 46  
 47 Peters: To be u:sed for m:p<sup>h</sup>aymints.  
 48  
 49 (0.2) ((tk))  
 50  
 51 Nixon: ·plk=

51

<sup>33</sup> The side-dotted [l] in “Ka:lmbak” indicates a hearable ‘l’, in contrast, e.g., to p.23 line 47’s “Kahmbak”.



- 1 Peters: =•u(least) a porsh'n of it  
2  
3 (0.4)  
4  
5 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ Suh-uh- some of it. Right.  
6 |  
7 (Ø): | °°uhhuh°°  
8 (1.8) |  
9 (1.6)  
10 |  
11 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ ·plk W•(ell) I thin:k I think hHaldem'n w'd uh:: would, would 'say that's °true.°  
12  
13 (0.3)  
14  
15 Peters: °Mmhm,°  
16  
17 (0.3)  
18  
19 Nixon: ·pYih°know°  
20  
21 (0.3)  
22  
23 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ •I think he would.=I mean I don' kno:w but wi'll see  
24 |  
25 (Ø): (0.5) °°khhn°°  
26 |  
27 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_<sup>34</sup>You c'd< (0.2) You: should ask uh I guess Kahm[bahk  
28 [   
29 Peters: [Well the >point'v it< is it  
30  
31 went tuh LuhRue.=insteda goin' duh the c'mmittee directly  
32  
33 (0.6)  
34  
35 Nixon: °↓Mmhm↓°  
36  
37 (1.1)  
38  
39 Nixon: ·hh:thh  
40  
41 Peters: A•n::d Haldem: uh An' LuhRue: uh ·huhh uh:: apparen'ly deed not give a  
42  
43 receipt °·h°  
44  
45 (0.3)  
46  
47 ((tk [kk])  
48 [   
49 (Nixon): [(hm)  
50 [   
51 Peters: [Hawldem in had requestid it.

51

<sup>34</sup> “You c'd<” sounds like Nixon is stopping short, but it may be a pop! in the recording.

- 1 (·)  
2  
3 Nixon: Mmhm<sup>2</sup> ·t·hh •(B't ), (0.2) I think  
4  
5 ((tchk pip pip))  
6  
7 Nixon: i<sup>h</sup>thē uhhmhh ih•dj this uh bit thet thē ·hhh •LaRue: (·) was thē uh: was a member  
8  
9 of •was et leas' thē (0.8) member'v the f'nance committee I think that w'z thē(p)  
10  
11 •the point thet uh (0.6) •(thet I ask') Haldem'n abaht I siz who'd this money go  
12  
13 to in 'ee said uh went t'La Rue? La Rue wiz a member of the committee [41.0]  
14  
15 <sup>35</sup> er something like thet- uh of Stanziz c'mmittee I don'=w't that is=  
16  
17 Peters: =W'[I  
18 [   
19 Nixon: [Is 'at correct?=er d'you know that.  
20 [   
21 Peters: [-khh I deon't know that. Al[I I know is=  
22 [   
23 Nixon: [(you wyt)  
24  
25 Nixon: [eh might be]  
26 =[ ]  
27 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ [thet 'ee wor]ked fer John Michell<  
28 |  
29 (1.1) ((thk khak (·) pthup))  
30 |  
31 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>36</sup> Ah'll check awn that though  
32  
33 Nixon: Went tuh Michell?  
34  
35 Peters: ·hhhh •I no I say all I know is luu- LaRue: worked fer Michell.  
36  
37 (0.4)  
38 Peters: Uh::  
39  
40 Nixon: I think he wer- Yah. I think he wiz uh: uworked fer st- worked fer thē uh  
41  
42 finance c'mmittee b't I don'know you- you oughta check that ou[:t  
43 [   
44 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ [I wi-ill,  
45 |  
46 Nixon: | hmhh  
47 (0.7)  
48 | ((thk))

48

<sup>35</sup> Maurice H. Stans was chief of the Nixon finance committee in the 1972 re-election campaign that raised more than \$60 million dollars for President Nixon -- \$22 million of it in secret contributions. (*The Presidential Transcripts*, 'Names that figure in the transcripts', p.xxxix).

<sup>36</sup> Petersen's voice is a bit muffled here. He may have shifted his head, maybe making a note?

- 1 Nixon: \_\_\_ °·k·hh° Oka:y then: the main thing I need iv course is uh ·hh •(the) thing on  
2  
3 thē uhhh Well before yu- (·) Wait (·) Yer not g'nna have anything dihmorrow  
4  
5 on put'n'm in court so I don't *hmhmh* (0.6) •(nih)=  
6  
7 Peters: \_\_\_ =udon't think so:  
8 |  
9 (0.3) ((gm-mkm))  
10 |  
11 Nixon: \_\_\_ Haftih jes' tihmorrow jus: continue=develop the evidence  
12  
13 Peters: Yes sir.  
14  
15 (0.8)  
16  
17 Nixon: °·k° ·t·hhhh (nah)• think the:refore no: statement w'd be in order.*hmhh* 't  
18  
19 thē presen' time we: (0.2) [(we) decided against one duhday it jus' didn'=  
20 |  
21 (([k-tk]))  
22  
23 Nixon: \_\_\_ =seem dih be:,  
24 |  
25 (·)  
26 |  
27 Nixon: (0.8) °°·*hmhh*°°  
28 |  
29 Peters: | ·*khhh*  
30 |  
31 Nixon: \_\_\_ nYep °u° yueh I thought it would uh:::↓: it might (·) I jist uhad dih make  
32  
33 my own determ'nation I thought it would jeopardize ·hhhh [(0.4)] possibly=  
34 |  
35 (([ tink ]))  
36  
37 Nixon: =the pro:s' cution yih know,*hh* Who know[s,*hh*  
38 |  
39 Peters: [(I'm in favor'v)• (·) more  
40  
41 questions (then of an[swers)  
42 |  
43 Nixon: [That's right I mean:: we don' wanna say anything intil:  
44  
45 yih like- •there's been a big break in the case [then everybo[d y s t a r t s ]  
46 | [ | ]  
47 Peters: [·h h h h h [Well ah tillyih o]ne  
48  
49 thing Mistuh Pres'dent thet you oughta know [42.0]  
50  
51 Nixon: ·pYah.=  
52  
53 Peters: =hh I 'adda caw:ll from Ron Austro 'v thē ul- L.A. Ti:mes.=

- 1 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ =Mmhm?
- 2 |
- 3 (·) ((k|k-[kuh]))
- 4 | [
- 5 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ [·h Wh<sub>0</sub>:’s a decent ma<sub>y</sub>n en a(r) (0.[7] reasonably good acquaint’nce:=
- 6 | [
- 7 (([mrw]))
- 8
- 9 Peters: =-h •(I)- I think a: a rep<sup>h</sup>orter’v character if there are any, ·hh=
- 10
- 11 Nixon: =shheh hah ha,[ah
- 12 | [
- 13 Peters: [uh:m ·t·hhh ·uh: and ↑he: said ·h thet they hed rep<sup>h</sup>orts outta
- 14
- 15 the White H<sub>a</sub>ou:se thet (0.[4] thet uh:: ·huhhh (·) •Let me use hee:z ↓wo:r:ds.=
- 16 | [
- 17 (([mrk]))
- 18
- 19 Peters: =·huhh ·uh (·) that uh:: ahvih ↑two er three pe<sub>o</sub>ple over=the White Hou:se were
- 20
- 21 gunnuh be thro<sub>w</sub>wn duh the wo<sub>o</sub>:lves.
- 22
- 23 (0.3)
- 24
- 25 Nixon: •Hm:.
- 26
- 27 Peters: In his tuu- en:-: •(is) there anything to it ’n I said there’s nodn anything I c’n
- 28
- 29 tell you ’b<sub>gh</sub>out i<sub>gh</sub> t.
- 30 \_\_\_\_\_
- 31 (0.4) ((tk tk))
- 32 |
- 33 Nixon: \_\_\_\_\_ R<sup>h</sup>i(h)ight.h[·huh
- 34 | [
- 35 Peters: [Uh:: I jis(·)tuh cain’t ↑say anything ↓ab<sub>gh</sub>out i<sub>gh</sub>t. o[ne way]
- 36 [ ]=
- 37 Nixon: [Thet’s ]
- 38
- 39 Nixon: [r i g h t.]
- 40 = [
- 41 Peters: [er an<sub>ow</sub>]ther I don’ wunnuh c’nf<sub>i</sub>rm in I don’ wunnuh den[y it.
- 42 [
- 43 Nixon: [·t
- 44
- 45 Nixon: So ther pra<sub>b</sub>’ly write a story ghun th<sub>h</sub>a:t.[hunyuh]
- 46 [ ]
- 47 Peters: [ U h ,]hhhh I don’t kn<sub>e</sub>:w.
- 48 (·)
- 49
- 50 Peters: \_\_\_\_\_ •(uh) B’t I: mention it only beca<sub>w</sub>:z it’s uh
- 51 |
- 52 (0.5)
- 53 (0.6) ((tk))=

1 Nixon: | tsuh dits:: beginning duh::  
 2 |  
 3 ( Ø ): (0.3) *mghghm*=  
 4 |  
 5 Nixon: | =git out?=Yah.=  
 6 |  
 7 Peters: =It's beginnin' duh percolate  
 8 |  
 9 ((tk-k))  
 10 |  
 11 Nixon: Must'v come: fr'm whē:re=Thē uh hm U.S. Attōrney's offīce yuh thīn[k?  
 12 | [   
 13 Peters: | [·hhuhhhh  
 14 |  
 15 Peters: | *hhI*• ↑doubt it becau:se I *hh*hed no:t t<sup>h</sup>ol:d ↓the:m.  
 16 |  
 17 Nixon: | °°*wuhhh*°°  
 18 |  
 19 ((hh•nh))  
 20 |  
 21 (2.9) (0.9)  
 22 |  
 23 °((tk-tk))°  
 24 |  
 25 (0.4)  
 26 |  
 27 Peters: | So unl•ess they drew their own cuunjecture irreh: made their own c'njecter,  
 28 |  
 29 °((rustling noises))°  
 30 (0.9) |  
 31 ((tk)) [43.0]  
 32 |  
 33 Nixon: | •The U.S. Attōrney?h  
 34 |  
 35 (·)  
 36 (Peters): | •( )  
 37 (·)  
 38 |  
 39 Nixon: *Mhm*•=Well b't they uh*hm* •↓they were thīnking in terms of thē,h  
 40 |  
 41 Haldem'n↓ Ehrlichm'n thīng'n Dea:n. hI ↓spoze.  
 42 |  
 43 (·)  
 44 |  
 45 Nixon: ·*hmhhh* ·p:tch  
 46 |  
 47 Peters: Well, [yihknow I: (m[ean) uh]  
 48 [ [ ]  
 49 Nixon: [°(inyih)° [mYeah-]ah-ah  
 50 |  
 51 Peters: •I (d')know wuhd'ee wiz thīnkin' abou:t en [I (don'know-)]  
 52 [ ]  
 53 Nixon: [Where diz eh-] Where diz the

- 1 Nixon: C<sup>h</sup>ols'n thing come in agin: I:(d) I gunnuh git that ↓w'n: do[:wn tuh↓]  
 2 [ ]  
 3 Peters: [Where di]z what  
 4  
 5 thing c'm in?  
 6  
 7 ((tk-[k])  
 8 [ ]  
 9 Nixon: [C<sup>h</sup>ols'n  
 10  
 11 Peters: <sup>37</sup> ·hhhhuh •Oh ·hh ↑C<sup>h</sup>olsi:n uh:m (·) uh: w'z p<sup>h</sup>rizzin.  
 12  
 13 (0.3)  
 14  
 15 Peters: w•( )n: Ehrlichmin issued the awrder,h (0.3) f•er Hun' >tih git outta the<  
 16  
 17 c<sup>h</sup>ahntry.  
 18  
 19 Nixon: •>Oh I get it. Fine.< hOkay.  
 20  
 21 (·)  
 22  
 23 Nixon: So you('ll) c<sup>h</sup>all him too.  
 24  
 25 Peters: Mm yessir=  
 26  
 27 Nixon: =·tlk urRight.  
 28  
 29 (0.4)  
 30  
 31 Nixon: ·tch·hhh •Oka:y well if enning come:s up call me ev'n if iss a'middle a'the  
 32  
 33 night ok↑ay?  
 34  
 35 Peters: I will indee: [d  
 36 [ ]  
 37 Nixon: [hhThhha:nk you<  
 38  
 39 Peters: A'right Mister Pres'n thank you.  
 40  
 41 ((tk-k vww:::p))  
 42  
 43 (5.7) ((dead tape))  
 44  
 45 Voice: This c'nclu:des the abuse, of gover'mint p<sup>h</sup>ower segmints (0.2) fer  
 46  
 47 co:nversaysh'n number thirty eight (·) dash (·) eighdy two. [43.8]

47

<sup>37</sup> In standard orthography “prizzin” would be shown as ‘present’.