

Nixon and Haldeman, Telephone

April 18, 1973 12:05-12:20 am

1 Voice: Conversation number thirty eight dash ninety five (0.2) Portion of [27.5]
2
3 a telephoon conversation ·hh between the Presidint? ·h en H.R.
4
5 hHaldemin. °p·h° This portion? was recordid on April eighteenth
6
7 ·hh nineteen sevendy three ·hh between t_uwelve oh fi:ve ·h hen twelve
8
9 twenty a.m._u
10
11 (5.1) ((dead tape))
12
13 (1.5) ((loud rustling noises))
14
15 Nixon: hHeyllo?hmh[hhh [27.8]
16 []
17 Hald: [Oh: yessir.=
18
19 Nixon: =·hehehehhuh hWE:LL. u-yust wanted a' say thet uh heh ·heheh (0.3)
20
21 keep the fai:th,hh-hm[hhmhh
22 []
23 Hald: ¹ [Yes si:-:r.↓huh How'd the t(h)inner go ·hhuh[h
24 []
25 Nixon: [Well
26
27 ↓ih w'z fi:ne↓ great.nhEr great succ↓ess=
28
29 Hald: =W's Sinatra okay?
30
31 Nixon: hOh he wiz ↓fi:ne.=Jus' (0.2) did a beautiful ↓jobhm ·t·hahhh °en sk-°
32
33 eh standing ovation for 'im 'nhhi- °°·h^{ih}°° (0.2) °everything.°hhhrhh
34
35 ↓uh R[eally huReally went we:ll, ·huheheheh
36 []
37 (Ø): [()
38
39 (·)
40
41 Nixon: ² hOne a' the more ↑difficult ones I had ↓yuh know?hhuh-heh ·hehhhh
42
43 ³ ↓'thwhat I had on mah mI'in evrythi:ng?=
43

43

¹ The word "sir" is produced just short of plosively. It sounds just short of laughter.

² Nixon's "hhuh-heh" sounds like unvoiced laughter

³ In standard orthography "'thwhat I had on mah mI'..." would be "with what I had on my mind".

1 Nixon: _____ =*hmh*[h Bu]t uhh ·*hahhahhahhahhah* ↓'hAt's no prol'm<
2 | []
3 Hald: | [Yep]
4 |
5 (1.9) ((*knhh nh*))
6 |
7 Nixon: | ·pk·plk·plp ·plutee=*ekhhē*:[:.
8 | []
9 Hald: _____ [Well? [(0.2)] ah think [°ih°°- yih know *thet*=
10 | [] []
11 Nixon: | [*h m h*]h []
12 | []
13 | (([*knshh*]))
14 |
15 Hald: _____ =weef (·) iwe've reviewed what the [↓worst i:s 'n what<
16 | []
17 | (([*squeak*]))
18 (0.9)
19 Nixon: | ·k·*huhhh* ·pl·*hhahh*=
20 |
21 Hald: _____ wut's in between in ↑all?='n I think we ki[n
22 | []
23 Nixon: (0.4) | [*hmhhhh*][*hh*
24 | []
25 Hald: _____ [we kin deal with
26 |
27 _____ what↑ever it i:s in the (0.2) the thing now is jis' tuh
28 |
29 Nixon: | °°*hmhh*°°
30 |
31 (): | °°·h[*h*°°
32 (1.2) | []
33 | [((tk))]
34 |
35 | (0.4)
36 |
37 Hald: _____ play it ez it lies day by day 'n see w'r we come °↑out.°=
38 |
39 (): =*hmh*[*hh*
40 | []
41 Nixon: | [*·plk·huhhehh* hEn looking dow:n to, what the vulner'↓bil'deez are en↓
42 |
43 ⁴ *hnh*knowing it ['n then[*hh* ·*pt·hehaahhehaa*[*haahaa*] (0.3) [slee what happens=
44 | [(----- (2.0) -----)] []
45 | [] []
46 (): | [*hmhhhmhhmhhh* [°*hmh*°*hmhhhh*][*hh*
47 |
48 Nixon: =if ↑Strawn finished*hheh-h-yahrn* ↓I don't know *hhE*[r
49 | []
50 Hald: | [Well
51 |

⁴ The noises shown as “*hehaahhehaa*[*haahaa*” may be a yawn.

1 (0.6)
2
3 Hald: *hhoy* I don't think so I don't theenk he went u[p.
4 [.tch
5 Nixon: _____
6 |
7 (): (0.3) °*heen* *har*[ey°
8 [.p↓Oh yah.*hH*[m↓hm?*hmhhh*
9 Nixon: _____
10 [He- he: (·) had iz (0.4) conference with 'm but I
11 Hald: _____
12 |
13 don't think he went, tih the jury.
14 |
15 Nixon: _____ °°·tk°° ·*pwuh*
16 (0.9)
17 (0.3)
18 |
19 Nixon: _____ °°·t°°↓*Yebmhhmhmh* ·p-t ·tch
20
21 (0.3)
22
23 (Nixon): [(↓mgh)
24 [°*Ri-ight*,°=
25 Hald: _____
26
27 Nixon: =°*hhuh* K^hod I jest< (0.3) do hope that hē:h ·*huhuhuh*(0.4) says lookh=
28
29 I°*mhmhh* *hah*'ll be a witness ↓b't I'm not↓ gunnuh be a defendant*hh* ·*huhhh*
30
31 (·) Yih know,*[hh*
32 [(([*whhhh*))
33 (Ø): _____
34 (0.8)
35 (): _____ °°·*h*°°
36
37 Hald: _____ [Yeah
38 [°°(*rhi*'°°
39 (): _____
40 (1.4) (0.4)
41
42 (): _____ °°·*t·hyeah*°°
43
44
45 Hald: _____ Well (·) he will.=
46
47 (): _____ =°°*hmhhmhmh*[*hhh*°°
48 (1.0) [(([p-tkuhtkuh))
49 (Ø): _____
50
51 Hald: _____ 'Mean that[°s
52 [.plkuh *h*'N jes' say here's the truth*huh*?*mh*
53 Nixon: _____

1 (1.3)
2
3 Hald: hHē: he- I'm ↓sure that's *wh*at hi'll deu
4
5 Nixon: _____ ↓hHm hm?hh=
6 |
7 Nixon: (1.8) =((swallow)) hhmh ·t·hhēyahyah
8 |
9 Hald: _____ hEt jist- the only(p) (0.3) problem is if he thinks he['s
10 [
11 Nixon: (([skwkthp])
12
13 Hald: being helpful ↓on sump'n yih know? 'n- (·) ↓e[n
14 [
15 Nixon: _____ [·pt meYeh(p)
16 |
17 (·)
18 (1.2)
19 Nixon: | pehhh↓huhhhm
20 |
21 Hald: _____ B't I don't think he will now I think he understands.
22
23 Nixon: ·klk ·tchik ↓'T's right↓ ·hehehhehe What ↑is thè↓: mgh-hghm:hhh ·klk!
24
25 ·huhh One point↓thit I: fhh ez I s-urged terday is↓thet hzhu in Joh:n mghm
26
27 ↓naw: dihmorruh afternoon ↓we °hh° oughta meet again in h·hhehhehe
28
29 (0.8) hen: ·tlk·klk·tk ureally loo(·)k uhhard it what's coming hend ↓uh:::
30
31 yih know en wh lookit nhthe na:mes in so forth in: ·huhh (·) ↓and uh:::↓:
32
33 mhhh yih kno-:w? (0.2) ·hahh ↓huh::: °uut° (0.4) jis' be prepared for it
34
35 _____ mghm nI think too: the[t uh
36 | [
37 | (([tchk])
38 (2.2)
39 | ((various soft, clicking noi[ses))
40 | [
41 Nixon: _____ [·yahhhh We gotta consider thè::hhehuhh
42
43 ·hahh (0.2) the Dean thi:n[g?hmhhh[hh
44 [[
45 Hald: ([hh) [M[m[hm,
46 [[
47 Nixon: [·p[(No other) plans ↑I don't know
48
49 whether ·hehhe somebody really ought'n dih talk ↓to 'im.hh B'I don' know
50
51 whetherhhhI should b't
52 |
53 (): (0.9) °hehhehuhuh°

1 Nixon: ___|___ hI:ee uh he mus' think about tha:t as tuh whether (1.3) hwhether it's
2
3 ___|___ worth doing er not.ubecuz uh
4 |
5 (): (0.9) °·huhhuhhuhhuhhu°
6 |
7 Nixon: ___|___ He's obviously on the k_ick iv uh ((swallow)) ·tchk!
8 |
9 (): °·he:h°
10 |
11 (0.3)
12 |
13 Nixon: ___|___ saving 'im↑selfhh=
14 |
15 (): =°hmmh°=
16 |
17 Nixon: =↓_{man}[d uh↓]
18 []=
19 Hald: [°Yeah°]
20 |
21 Nixon: = hhmghhmm (0.2) °·hoopeh yeh_eha_eheh_a° °·p·t°° hUh en thè: U.S.
22
23 Att↑orney is gunnuh have=tough ↑pròblemhhmh but hmh mI think thih
24
25 ___|___ U.S. Attorney ul ·huhhuhhe my guess is will:h=
26 |
27 (): (1.0) =°°hh (0.4) hmhhmh[hh°°
28 []
29 Nixon: ___|___ [yih know g_ive 'm the immūnideehmmh
30
31 (0.2)
32
33 Nixon: ·p·t[lk
34 []
35 Hald: [Think 'ee wi:ll uh?
36
37 (0.4)
38
39 Nixon: ·plk Well I would ↓think so↓ Bob,hmm
40
41 (·)
42
43 (): ·t
44
45 Nixon: h[mh h]mh
46 []
47 Hald: [Hmh]
48
49 (0.2)
50
51 Nixon: hAnd uh:·huhhuh 'n ↑nen of course↑ wi'llhuh ·hehehe If the U.S. Attorney
52
53 is giving eem immūnity so thet 'ee c'n ↓tell the ↑truth (·) that doesn' bother

- 1 Nixon: me ·*hehhe* (·) B't if they give 'im thē eemunity in terms uff he'llawh
2
3 ·*huh* (0.3) *hif* it's incnee' fer 'im ↑*lie*:*heyuhh* that's thē that's:: the thing,
4
5 °·t·pt·tlk° (0.3) ·*fu*h And uh[*huhuh* (0.2) °↑*hww*° °°*hehhe*:*hh* ·p·t°°]
6 [————— (2.0) —————]
7 (0.5)
8
9 Nixon: ↑But they iv course hev their leh*hehh*have their other*hehh* hwitnessiz
10
11 en so forth tuh try dih corroborate ih ·t·*hehhh* [-(0.6)-] *hhI do ho*(·)pe=
12 []
13 (Ø): (([klk klk]))
14
15 Nixon: ↓uh:: one thing that *uhheheh* that the other thing we've gotta do is tuh
16
17 ·*he:hh* (0.3) Bob is tih get s:↑some: kind iv ↓a< (0.7) *mk hli*:ne with
18
19 regard touh °·*hehhēh*° [-(0.7)-] *tih-oo*: ↓to: this whole business of=
20 []
21 (Ø): °°((↑*wuh wuh*))°°
22
23 Nixon: =helping the defendents: *hah* mean that's: ·*hehhēh* [-(0.3)-] *hhI*< just=
24 []
25 (Ø): (([klk klk]))
26
27 Nixon: =fee:l s: some way tha(·)t oughta be able dih be done yih know wuddeh
28
29 mea:n thet uh ·*huhuhēh*=
30
31 Hald: =°M[m°
32 []
33 (): °[*wh*°=
34
35 Nixon: _____ =*hUhhhhI* don't know whether ther- ther is any ↑wa:y ↓though is er↓*hh*
36 |
37 | (·)
38 |
39 (): (1.1) ·*tihhh*
40 |
41 | (0.3)
42 |
43 Hald: _____ We:ll? (·) eh_{yth}
44 |
45 | (0.8)
46 |
47 (): (1.5) ·*hehhēh*
48 |
49 | (·)
50 |
51 Hald: _____ I thin(k)< (0.7) gAh doh I don't see anything other then thē [(0.3)] ·*h* the=
52 []
53 Nixon: [*hmhh*]

1 Hald: _____ =basic point thet[h
 2 | [_____
 3 Nixon: | [hmh=
 4 (1.2)
 5 (): | =°°(hoh ↑khay)()°°
 6 |
 7 Hald: _____ yih know it wuuss
 8 |
 9 (·)
 10 |
 11 Nixon: | ·t·hhehhehheh
 12 (1.9)
 13 (): | °°(heeyuh)°°
 14 |
 15 (0.6)
 16 |
 17 Hald: _____ As it's been discussed all a↑long ↓thet it wiz
 18 |
 19 Nixon: (0.7) hmhhh h↓yeh[Right,
 20 | [_____
 21 Hald: _____ [thi the fees in the [-(-0.5)-] en the eh [(0.6) suppor:t 'n that's it
 22 | [] []
 23 Nixon: [hmhhh] [hmh
 24 |
 25 (0.3)
 26 |
 27 Nixon: ·t Fer people who-:-:hmhh ·hah-:-:·hahh °°hu°° (0.2) m↑ghm↓:hmh-:-:·:-:
 28 |
 29 (Ø): ((pt ptk))
 30 |
 31 Nixon: ·t haqhh[uh
 32 | [_____
 33 (Ø): (([tk]))
 34 |
 35 (0.5)
 36 |
 37 Nixon: ↓hThe uhhmhh< ((swallow)) ·t·hahh:hehh ·kt h↑One point too Bob if youu in
 38 |
 39 ikh ↓gunnuh be busy dihmorruh iv youu inhmhh you bih be eble duhhuh think
 40 |
 41 ⁵ ouer in: talk tuh people c'z↓ (0.6) ↑maybe with mMore in this instance ↓uv uh↓
 42 |
 43 ·heheh °°h°° of, ↑what ↓the hell uh°°hmh°°[——(1.4)——] See ther's ↑one:=
 44 | []
 45 (([tk-tk k-t-tk t-k])

45

⁵ Richard A. Moore was one of Nixon's advisors. According to Lukas (*Nightmare* p.376), When the Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities (i.e., the Ervin Committee) was formed on February 7, 1973, "Haldeman, Ehrlichman, Dean, and Richard Moore met in California to develop their 'game plan' against the select committee." According to Dean (*Blind Ambition*), Moore, who had "come into the hush-money business as an extra White House courier to Mitchell" (p.196), coined the 'cancer' image of the cover up in a conversation with Dean on March 20, 1973 (p.196), and helped him in his attempt to put together a 'Dean Report' (p.230).

- 1 Nixon: t:roublesome thing dih me abou(·)t Dean en I wantchu dih get the(*d*)↑date
2
3 ↓nah win this hap- win 'ee ·*hahhhhhh* he 'member when they- when 'ee
4
5 6 c^hame i:n in said- <e:n: had this information a↓bout mBitt↓man ·*hahhhh*
6
7 (0.3) ↓u-uh-:-: è-uh↓:oo-:< (0.7) ·p win: uh you were there but ↓uhh
8
9 ·*heh:eh* they would say well uh- right et that ↑moment the president should
10
11 ivhhh probably turned *thet* over dih the U.S. Att↑orney ↓yih see↓
12
13 Hald: nNo.=
14
15 (Ø): =^{oo}((chk))^{oo}
16
17 (0.5)
18
19 Nixon: _____ ·p Why notuh
20 |
21 | (1.5)
22 |
23 (): (1.8) ^{oo}·t·k^{oo}
24 |
25 | (·)
26 |
27 Hald: _____ Wul bekiz zhu didn't know what you had?='n yih didn'(·)t ih y:ou wern't (·)
28
29 in a inny po↑sition ↓duh turn it over to ['im
30 |
31 Nixon: [·pt ·*huhhhh* hWell on the groun' thet
32
33 7 when 'ee said look they wahnt money fer ther fees in so forth 'n so on in ·t
34
35 ·*hehhhhah* hen thend uh:*hhuhhhnnhhh* then he said hwe:ll?h ·t·*huh* (0.4) ^{oo}·t·^{oo}
36
37 and I spoze we ↑did we hed ↓'n uh mean in fairness we,h*·hehhh* we where
38
39 saying we:ll *h*what c'n be ↑do↓:ne. Yih know?*hhuh*[*hh*
40 | |
41 | | (([tk])
42 | |
43 | (0.2)
44 (0.9)
45 Nixon: | °·*heheh*°

45

⁶ ???

⁷ The first time that the demand for money for the Watergate defendants is mentioned is at the 'cancer on the presidency' meeting (March 21, 1973), initially between Nixon and Dean, and at some point joined by Haldeman. The person Dean speaks of is not William O. Bittman (Howard Hunt's lawyer), but Paul L. O'Brien, a lawyer for the Committee to Re-elect the President, whom Hunt had approached and asked to deliver the demand to John Dean (Jeff Trans:38:13-39:26). Perhaps this is the meeting Nixon is referring to above, when he speaks of the "information about Bittman" and says, "you [Haldeman] were there".

1 | (0.2)
2 |
3 Nixon: | hAnd uhhuhuhuhuh the way Dean might< (0.3) put that ez et well en eh
4 |
5 | ·heheheheh (·) [(0.4)] ↑ghhm hhe k-eez ↑gotta figure that maybe he c'd=
6 | []
7 | °([p-tk])°
8 |
9 Nixon: =say well he w'z in the Presid'nt's o↑ffice ↓un told the President that 'n
10 |
11 | he (·) that of course he shouldn't. rea[ll]y do.
12 | []
13 Hald: ([Right])
14 |
15 | (0.3)
16 |
17 Hald: | Yah?
18 | |
19 | (0.6) ((p-t-k))
20 | |
21 Nixon: | But uh what's yer guess on that h[mhh
22 | | []
23 | | (([ft])
24 | |
25 | (1.9)
26 |
27 Hald: | ·t'h hu-I jist ey jis(0.2)t can't (0.4) I don' know.=↓I thI jus' can't conceiv
28 | |
29 | | thet 'ee would.=
30 | |
31 (): (0.7) =°hmhmhh°
32 | |
33 | (0.2)
34 | |
35 Nixon: | ↓M_{gh}mhmh
36 | |
37 | (·)
38 Nixon: | ·plk
39 | |
40 | (1.0)
41 (Ø): | thk
42 | |
43 Nixon: ⁸ °°hm°°But the:n he'llhuh ·heheheh wi'll ruh- wuuv- (·) course report thet
44 | |
45 | 'ee'd tlk reported it tuh Ehrlichmin?hnh↓h'n ·t ·hahh hEhrlichm'n said 'ee
46 | |
47 | couldn' do anythi:ng?hhn hen thet- (·) wuuz discusssed with Mit↓chell.h=
48 | |
49 | Right?hn=
50 |

50

⁸ In standard orthography, “wi'll ruh- wuuv- (·) course report...” would be shown as “we'll re- of- (·) course report...”

1 Nixon: [·p
 2 [

3 Hald: ↑fafamily ↓problem 'ee had,
 4
 5 (0.2)
 6

7 Nixon: _____ ·klRi:ght,hmh
 8 |

9 Nixon: | ·p·thah °°hh°°
 10 |
 11 | (0.6)
 12 (6.7) |

13 Nixon: | °hmh (·) hmhmh°
 14 |
 15 | (4.5)
 16 |

17 Nixon: _____ gMm↓:hmh-hh-hh ·plk·tk
 18 |
 19 | (0.3)
 20 |

21 Nixon: _____ ·kl Well give it- (·) that one s'm har::d ↓thought.h Yih know? en,ehh[h
 22 |
 23 | [(([tk))
 24 |

25 Nixon: (1.3) °°·hh°°
 26 |
 27 | (0.7)
 28 |

29 Nixon: _____ C'z I spoze Dean'll lob that one in pretty soo:nhmh
 30 |
 31 | (·)
 32 |
 33 | ((tk, k-tk-k-tk))
 34 (2.8) |
 35 | (0.5)
 36 |

37 Nixon: ((swallow))
 38 |
 39 | (0.3)
 40 |

41 Hald: _____ Yup?
 42 |
 43 | (0.3)
 44 (0.6) |
 45 | ((dk))
 46 |

47 Nixon: _____ ((swallow)) ·t ↓En 'ee,h
 48 |

49 (): °°·h°°
 50 |

51 Hald: Yah,
 52 |
 53 (0.3)

1 Hald: **Thed** jist< (0.2) **Thet**'s<
2
3 Nixon: *hhh*
4
5 Hald: th-almos' beyond [belief.=
6 []
7 Nixon: [·klk
8
9 Nixon: ⁹ =_gIf he has (·) emmunity he'll do it,*hhhehf* 'ee doesn'th *·hehhh* hhe m^hay
10
11 n^hot whadduhhh ·*hahhhh* ↓but uh↓*hmh* (0.2) °*gk*° (0.3) ((swallow)) ↓the
12
13 way he *uhhmh* (1.1) °°tk-k-tk°° °°s operating?=it's very interesting°
14
15 *hnhnh glk* ·tlk °°t-k-t-k°° (1.0) °°((swallow))°°
16
17 (0.9)
18
19 Nixon : ·plkCourse the problem i:s thet he c 'n talk(·) tuh me inh ·*hehehh* hen:d
20
21 i-thet day I talk' God damn °↑freely with ↓'im yI said well what the hell
22
23 where you gunnuh ↑get it↑ (·) nyeh knowhuh°·*hehehh*° (0.4) h↓end uh↓=
24
25 *hmhmmh* ih siz we don' do=we doon have the money, ↓*hmh* ·p·t·huh how
26
27 much is it 'n yell be a million dollar[s in I] said*nh* ·*hahhh* good God ↓I=
28 []
29 Hald: [↓Mm]
30
31 Nixon: = says.*huhh* ·*hehh*
32
33 (): °↑eh°=
34
35 Nixon: ¹⁰ =hEn they mittid id the ↑black↓mail thing.↓=He said this is blackmail 'n
36
37 hI said*h* ·t·t·k we can't be blackmailed er: somebuddy said thet er h↑he

37

⁹ In standard orthography, "...he'll do it, *hhhehf* 'ee..." would be shown as "...he'll do it, *heh* if he...", and "he m^hay n^hot whadduh..." might be "he may not want to".

¹⁰ In the March 21, 1973 meeting between Nixon and Dean, Dean tells Nixon, about the men arrested in the Watergate break-in, that "they started making demands" for "attorney's fees". Discussions with John Mitchell followed, at which Dean "was present, that these guys had to be taken care of". (JeffTrans 33:12-21). Nixon thereafter refers to it in the same words, that "you're taking care of witnesses." (JeffTrans 35:3-4). Subsequently, Dean says "this is going to be a continual blackmail operation by [the Watergate defendants]" (JeffTrans:36:26-37:3). He uses that reference again [JeffTrans:38:13 and 40:3], and sums up by saying "[T]here's the problem of the continued blackmail. Which will not only go on now, it'll go on when these people are in prison, and it will compound the obstruction of justice situation", adding "It'll cost money. It's dangerous. . . .It's a real problem as to whether we could even do it", and concluding that "there's no denying the fact that the White House and Ehrlichman, Haldeman, Dean are involved in some of the early money decisions." At which point Nixon asks "How much money do you need", Dean answers "'I would saay these people are going to cost a million dollars over the next two years", to which Nixon responds "We could get that. . . ."[Y]ou could get the million dollars and you could get it in cash. I know where it could be gotten." (JeffTrans:44:22-46:15).

1 Nixon: ↓did.=
 2
 3 Hald: =hh[hh
 4 [
 5 Nixon: [Yih gotta say to his credit didn'ee
 6
 7 (1.2)
 8
 9 (Ø): °°tuh-tee°° khh
 10
 11 (0.4)
 12
 13 Hald: ¹¹ I'm not sure 'ee di:d. En thet- (0.9) thAh min thih- not hAh'm not sure 'ee
 14
 15 sid we couldn't ↓be.
 16 |
 17 (): | hmh
 18 |
 19 Nixon: (1.9) ·pt·h_ihuhuhhn↑y_ih
 20 |
 21 (·)
 22 |
 23 Nixon: ——— ·plk °Couldn' be blackmail?°uh
 24 |
 25 (0.6)
 26 (2.3)
 27 Nixon: | ·plak·k (0.4) °t hmh[h
 28 | [
 29 Hald: ——— [Ehz tih question whether yuh-[—(1.7)—] go down=
 30 []
 31 Nixon: [h_hm↑u_h h_m]
 32
 33 Hald: =that [(road)]
 34 []
 35 Nixon: [pI W_ISH THERE WERE a WA:y we ↓c'd tshn-khn h_he- et least
 36
 37 h_uh_h-h-h ·h_eh_hh s::ep'rate Ehrlichmin out I don't know h_how you ca:n,h
 38
 39 becuz uh,h_h ·tkl ·h_uh_hh (0.4) h_is u_hm_hh_h (0.2) ·t·h_uh_uh_hh ·kluk ·h_uh m_gh_h↓:m
 40

40

¹¹ Prior to Haldeman's joining the meeting, Dean suggests that "we should begin to think in terms of how to cut the losses. How to minimize the further growth of this thing. Rather than further compound it by ultimately paying these guys forever." (JeffTrans:82:13-23). After Haldeman has entered (which he does at JeffTrans:91:23-26), Nixon says to Dean "The point is, your feeling is that we just can't continue to pay the blackmail to these guys." Dean answers, "I think that's our greatest jeopardy", to which Nixon responds, "Now let me tell you it's no problem, we could get the money there's no problem in that." (JeffTrans:119:7-11). A bit later, Nixon says to Dean, "So...your feeling at the present time is to hell with the million dollars? In other words you say to these fellows I'm sorry it's all off and let them talk. Correct?" Dean says "Well," to which Nixon responds "That's the way to do it () If you want to do it clean". Haldeman concurs: "Yeah the clean way to do it, that's the way you can live with it. Because the problem with the blackmail, and that's the thing we kept raising with you [Dean] when you said there's a money problem, when you needed twenty thousand or a hundred thousand or something? was yeah that's what you need today but what do you need tomorrow and then next year? and five years from now?"

- 1 (2.3) ((various clicking noises))
2
3 Nixon: See the luh- (·) the vulner'bil'dy iv a law↓yer here is è-is enormous
4
5 *pē*[cuz *zhy*]ou know yih see it jes(·)t it's a deestructshin of iss:: of iz=
6 []
7 Hald: [Y a h]
8
9 Nixon: _____ =c'ree:r.
10 |
11 | (·)
12 |
13 Nixon: (1.3) ·pt·hahhahhah
14 |
15 | (0.4)
16 |
17 Nixon: _____ But uh:h (1.1) there=other things tih ↑do:hmhmhhh pklkrk (·) ·tkuh °·huhh°
18
19 _____ (0.7) ↓and uh↑:↓:hhhI don' kno:w.hhuh
20 |
21 | (0.8)
22 |
23 Nixon: _____ °·k°
24 (1.7)
25 | (0.5)
26 |
27 Nixon: _____ ((vl)) °([↑] °)
28 | []
29 Hald: _____ [Still wou]ld they've- they've got a long ways tih go before they c'n=
30 |
31 Nixon: _____ =°hh°
32 (2.6)
33 | (2.5)
34 |
35 Hald: _____ °c'n make° a point on any a' that,
36 |
37 Nixon: _____ °hmhmhmh°
38 (1.9)
39 | (1.0)
40 |
41 Nixon: _____ ·p·hahhhehehehh< (0.4) heeYu(·)p hih ↑ti:s ↓a long ↑ways hhehhhh ↓and uh in
42
43 *thè* hmean↓time a' course I'll↓ (0.3) [—(1.6)—] ↓be a ↑const'nt problem wohn'
44
45 *it*.hmhh Well (·) ·t·heh[hh °°hh hh°° No use tō borrow any more trouble then we=
46 []
47 (Ø): [·tlk
48
49 Nixon: _____ =↑go:t is er.hm[hhh
50 |
51 Hald: _____ [No?
52
53 Nixon: _____ ·hmhh hahhh ·huh ↓But let's:: lit's sit down en just pu'down'n a piece=pap↓er

- 1 Nixon: what thè h ·*huhhh* what the vulⁿner'bil'dies a↑:re?*hhh* How minny people iz
2
3 ↑I see et the present t̄i:me,*wh ·hèhheheheh hè<* You've got ·tlk-k ey got
4
5 12 (·) clear cāsiz ↓in: (·) terms of prior ↓knowledge ev LaRue::?*hmh* (·) ·*ptrkrk*
6
7 13 Mitchell,*hmh* Mardienih (0.2) ·*mnch* ·tkl (0.4) *hh*↓ah::: u-M'gruder, (0.2) 'n
8
9 14 ↑possibly the law↓yers suz whuddiyih thinghn hmO'Brien?*hm-hmhmhmh*
10
11 (·) °°*hmh*°° ·p·t·khlk[l
12 [
13 Hald: 15 [Ah wuhd guess ↓so:,
14
15 Nixon: *h*↓Ri'*hmh*=
16
17 Hald: _____ =hI-
18 |
19 Nixon: | ·*kh*lek
20 (0.7)
21 | (0.5)
22 |
23 Hald: _____ ↓On thè
24
25 (2.1)
26
27 Nixon: [·t
28 [
29 Hald: _____ [Yee=I- ah they- eh guess they mu:st fr'[m what
30 | [
31 Nixon: | [·*thmh*h

31

¹² 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." In Lukas' profile (pp.351-2), he is characterized as "passing messages, briefing witnesses, delivering cash - the indispensable jack-of-all-missions." 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).

¹³ Robert Mardian, initially John Mitchell's assistant Attorney General, became deputy manager of the committee to re-elect (Lukas, p.339), indicted on one count of conspiracy to obstruct justice, sentenced to serve 10 months to three years in 1976 (Jaworski, p.339) when Jaworski's *the Right and the Power* was published, the conviction was under appeal).

¹⁴ Paul L. O'Brien and Kenneth W. Parkinson were hired in June, 1972 to represent the Committee to Re-elect the President in the Watergate matter. John Dean (*Blind Ambition*, pp.161-2) refers to Ken Parkinson and Paul O'Brien as members of "the middle-level cover-up group", and as "serving as intermediaries with Hunt." And (according to Lukas, pp.395-6) on March 16th, with March 23rd set as the date for sentencing of the Watergate burglars, Hunt met with O'Brien with a demand for \$132,000, telling O'Brien to take a message to John Dean saying that if he didn't get his money he would have to "review his options". On March 19th, O'Brien passed this message along to Dean. According to Lukas (p.430), O'Brien was among those whom Dean, on the morning of April 14th, told Haldeman and Ehrlichman "'might be involved in potential obstruction-of-justice problems' and might be indicted." (Dean's foreboding apparently did not materialize -- Paul O'Brien is not mentioned in Jaworski's 'Status Report of Cases' ('appendix a', pp.348-354 in *The Right and the Power*), a comprehensive list of those indicted, and the outcome of their cases.)

¹⁵ Elapsed time between the end of Nixon's "...O'Brien?" and start of Haldeman's utterance: (2.1)

1 (Ø): (0.6) °kr̥ek-krik°=
2 |
3 Nixon: _|_ =_mOn the=
4
5 Hald: =what Joh↑:n ↓said they↓ did,
6
7 Nixon: °°:t ↓Un the↓°° cover_{up}?hm[h
8 [
9 Hald: [↓O'Brien en (·) h_{en} uh
10
11 (·)
12
13 Nixon: See now=
14
15 Hald: ¹⁶ =Parkins[on.
16 [
17 Nixon: [En also< (0.2) ↑ghhuh↑ wut- [(0.4)] w_{gh}at- (·) what=
18 []
19 ° (([tchk]))°
20
21 Nixon: =Ehrlich↓m'n's (0.3) [-(0.4)-] own investigation [↓was it's↓ very=
22 [] [
23 °(([[thukka]))° (([dk])
24
25 Nixon: = import'n I think that we hehhh get ↑that↓che know eh so thethnhnh//
26
27 ((tape cuts))

27

¹⁶ Kenneth W. Parkinson and Paul O'Brien, two attorneys hired in June, 1972 to represent the Committee to Re-elect the President in the Watergate matter. John Dean (*Blind Ambition*, pp.161-2) refers to them as members of "the middle-level cover-up group", and as "serving as intermediaries with Hunt." At one point, Parkinson brought in a memo from Hunt that spelled out the Watergate defendants' money demands. In a telephone conversation with Colson, Hunt speaks of the money problem, saying "...and uh Parkinson who's been the go-between with my attorneys doesn't seem to be very effective..." (JeffTrans 8:11-12). Parkinson was indicted on March 1, 1974, on one count of conspiracy to obstruct justice and one count of obstruction of justice; pleaded not guilty; acquitted January 1, 1975 (Jaworski, p.340).