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[ca. June 1975]

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Is this O.K.?

Nessen will be  
briefing at noon.

OK.

P.



REFUGEE APPROPRIATION BILL

*Press Office*

Q: The refugee appropriation bill arrived at the White House Monday afternoon. If the President is in such a hurry to get the money, as he said he was, why hasn't he signed the bill?

A: The bill did arrived here late Monday. Part of the delay is just due to the processing of the paper through the system. But I think you are probably aware that the Congress is expected to pass the legislation authorizing the expenditure of the funds sometime today. We expect to have that legislation tomorrow and I would look for the President to sign both bills together.

(If pressed, you can add: ~~time~~ The President prefers to wait for the authorization bill so that he doesn't have to contend with the question of whether or not we need an authorization bill to spend the money. Congress is moving forward and we are content to wait another day, but we would have to take another look at the situation if Congress were to recess before enacting the authorization legislation.)



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Wick  
Filming

June 11, 1975

Dear Mr. Coblenz:

This responds to your letter to me dated May 31, 1975, requesting permission to film four scenes for the feature motion picture ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN on the White House grounds.

The areas you have requested to use within the White House grounds are under the administration of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. I have consulted with representatives of the National Park Service and they have advised me that filming in all park areas is governed by regulations found in 43 C.F.R. § 5. These regulations generally provide that a written Park Service permit is required for all filming activities other than those conducted by amateur or bona fide newsreel and news television photographers.

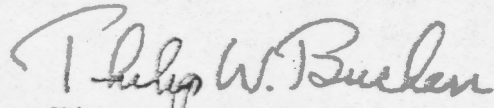
The Park Service further informs me that it is their policy to strictly limit access to the White House grounds for filming purposes. Access is afforded only for bona fide newsreel or news television filming activities and for filming activities conducted by or in cooperation with the National Park Service and which relate directly to the interpretation of the White House park resource. This policy is designed to provide the least possible disruption to activities conducted within the White House area and to afford the greatest protection to this historical park resource. While prior Administrations may have operated under different policies, this Administration, in fairness to everyone concerned, has consistently denied all requests for filming activities on the White House grounds except as described above.

I am in agreement with the position and policy of the National Park Service and will not seek to reverse the Park Service's decision to deny you a permit to film on the White House grounds. However, the Park Service informs me that they are more than willing to cooperate with you in affording access to other park areas in Washington, D. C.



I trust that you appreciate our position in this matter and I wish you every success for your production.

Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Mr. Walter Coblenz  
Producer  
Wildwood Enterprises, Inc.  
4000 Warner Boulevard  
Burbank, California 91522

bcc: Mr. Jack Valenti  
Mr. Ron Nessen  
Mr. Richard Cheney



Wednesday 6/11/75

Meeting  
6/11/75  
3:30 p.m.

2:45 Mr. Cheney, Mr. Nessen and Mr. Buchen will meet at 3:30 in Mr. Nessen's office to discuss the policy of filming on the White House grounds.



*W.H. Filming*

June 11, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY  
RON NESSEN

FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN *PB*

Attached is a copy of the incoming letter regarding the request for filming on the White House grounds in connection with "All the President's Men" together with a draft response prepared for my signature by the National Park Service. I can meet with you this afternoon to discuss this whenever you are ready after 3 o'clock.

Attachments



DRAFT

Mr. Walter Coblenz  
Producer  
Wildwood Enterprises, Inc.  
4000 Warner Boulevard  
Burbank, California 91522

Dear Mr. Coblenz:

This responds to your letter to me dated May 31, 1975 requesting permission to film four scenes for the feature motion picture ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN on the White House grounds.

The areas you have requested to use within the White House grounds are under the administration of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. I have consulted with representatives of the National Park Service and they have advised me that filming in all park areas is governed by regulations found in 43 C.F.R. § 5. These regulations generally provide that a written Park Service permit is required for all filming activities other than those conducted by any person other than amateur or bona fide newsreel and news television photographers. The Park Service informs me that it is their policy to strictly limit access to the White House grounds for filming purposes. Access is afforded only for bona fide newsreel or news television filming activities and for filming activities conducted by or in cooperation with the National Park Service and which relate directly to the interpretation of the White House park resource. This policy is





designed to provide the least possible disruption to activities conducted within the White House area and to afford the greatest protection to this historical park resource.

My office agrees with the position and policy of the National Park Service and we will not seek to reverse the Park Service's decision to deny your request to film on the White House grounds. However, the Park Service informs me that they are more than willing to cooperate with you in affording access to other park areas in Washington, D.C.

I trust that you appreciate our position in this matter and I wish you every success for your production.

Sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
June 9, 1975

W/H -  
Films of  
the grounds

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BOB MEAD

FROM:

MIKE FARRELL *MF*

SUBJECT:

Use of the Residence, Gardens and  
Grounds for filming

Because of the increased interest on the part of various organizations in filming at the White House as the Bicentennial approaches, it would be helpful to establish a new procedure for handling requests. Before approving any requests which come from sources outside your regular contacts for filming official activities at the White House, please submit these requests in advance to the Office of Counsel for their consideration and approval. It would be helpful to provide as much information as possible including the purpose of the filming. Hopefully, this procedure will enable us to be fair and consistent in responding to the many requests which come in through many different members of the staff.

Thank you.

cc: Phillip Buchen ✓  
Ron Nessen  
William Casselman  
Jerry Jones  
Rex Scouten  
Sheila Weidenfeld  
Jerry Warren



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Bill Casselman:

For your files.

Per Ron Nessen's  
note, I did talk  
to Mike who, of course,  
does know about our  
policy on commercial  
filming.

P.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

NOTE FOR: *Phil Buchen*  
FROM : RON NESSEN

I assume you  
will notify Mike  
Farrell that  
the Legal Counsel's  
office has made  
a firm ruling on  
no filming.

R14A



May 31, 1975

The Honorable Philip W. Buchan  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Sir:

Wildwood Enterprises, Inc. is making this request in order to obtain permission to film on the White House grounds. The filming we would like to do is limited to four scenes - (1) a day time point of view from inside the grounds looking towards Pennsylvania Avenue, (2) a day time scene of two actors and eight extras talking while walking between the East Executive Wing and the Old Executive Office Building, (3) a newscaster doing a news broadcast, and (4) a night shot of a car arriving and going through the North West gate on Pennsylvania Avenue.

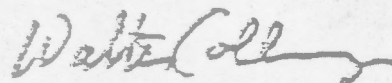
Together these scenes represent about a minute and a half of screen time in the feature motion picture ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN. The film is directed by Alan Pakula and stars Robert Redford, Dustin Hoffman, Jason Robards, Martin Balsam, and Jack Warden. It is a Wildwood Enterprises, Inc. production to be released by Warner Brothers.

Although our crew numbers approximately sixty people, we will limit those actually working on the White House grounds to twenty. We are fortunate to have with us a distinguished group of film makers headed by Cinematographer Gordon Willis and Production Designer Geroge Jenkins.

As you know, in the past motion picture companies have been permitted to film scenes on the White House grounds. Your permission will, therefore, not set a precedent.

If you need further information, please call me at 522-1557.

Sincerely,



Walter Coblenz  
Producer



WILDWOOD ENTERPRISES, INC.

4000 Warner Boulevard, Burbank, California 91522 Phone (818) 246-2222

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 3, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Dick Cheney ✓  
Bill Casselman

Attached is a written request from the producer of "All the President's Men." This letter came to me as a result of an earlier call from Jack Valenti who argued that because three previous movie productions had done filming on the White House grounds in the Nixon administration, we should at least consider a written request for permission in this case to do a very limited amount of filming.

I suggest you, Bill, consult with the Parks Department and Secret Service and that, based in part on their views, we should come to a final decision quickly.

*Phil Buchen*

Attachment



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 9, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHIL BUCHEN  
FROM: DICK CHENEY

Phil, attached is your memo of June 3rd concerning the request for filming of a portion of "All the President's Men" someplace on the White House grounds.

Ron had previously set this up, and then at your direction, I asked Ron to cancel the filming and he did do that.

Would you please contact him before we give the film company any kind of an answer to their written request to film on the White House grounds?

cc: Ron Nessen

Attachment



## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 9, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB MEAD

FROM: MIKE FARRELL *MF*

SUBJECT: Use of the Residence, Gardens and  
Grounds for filming

Because of the increased interest on the part of various organizations in filming at the White House as the Bicentennial approaches, it would be helpful to establish a new procedure for handling requests. Before approving any requests which come from sources outside your regular contacts for filming official activities at the White House, please submit these requests in advance to the Office of Counsel for their consideration and approval. It would be helpful to provide as much information as possible including the purpose of the filming. Hopefully, this procedure will enable us to be fair and consistent in responding to the many requests which come in through many different members of the staff.

Thank you.

cc: Phillip Buchen ✓  
Ron Nessen  
William Casselman  
Jerry Jones  
Rex Scouten  
Sheila Weidenfeld  
Jerry Warren





MEMORANDUM  
THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 9, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB MEAD

FROM: MIKE FARRELL *MF*

SUBJECT: Use of the Residence, Gardens and  
Grounds for filming

Because of the increased interest on the part of various organizations in filming at the White House as the Bicentennial approaches, it would be helpful to establish a new procedure for handling requests. Before approving any requests which come from sources outside your regular contacts for filming official activities at the White House, please submit these requests in advance to the Office of Counsel for their consideration and approval. It would be helpful to provide as much information as possible including the purpose of the filming. Hopefully, this procedure will enable us to be fair and consistent in responding to the many requests which come in through many different members of the staff.

Thank you.

cc: Phillip Buchen  
Ron Nessen ✓  
William Casselman  
Jerry Jones  
Bex Scouten  
Sheila Weidenfeld  
Jerry Warren



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 3, 1975

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Bill Casselman


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I suggest you, Bill, consult with the Parks Department and Secret Service and that, based in part on their views, we should come to a final decision quickly.

*Phil Buchen*

Attachment





May 31, 1975

The Honorable Philip W. Buchin  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Sir:

Wildwood Enterprises, Inc. is making this request in order to obtain permission to film on the White House grounds. The filming we would like to do is limited to four scenes - (1) a day time point of view from inside the grounds looking towards Pennsylvania Avenue, (2) a day time scene of two actors and eight extras talking while walking between the East Executive Wing and the Old Executive Office Building, (3) a newscaster doing a news broadcast, and (4) a night shot of a car arriving and going through the North West gate on Pennsylvania Avenue.

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As you know, in the past motion picture companies have been permitted to film scenes on the White House grounds. Your permission will, therefore, not set a precedent.

If you need further information, please call me at 522-1557.

Sincerely,



Walter Coblenz  
Producer



WILDWOOD ENTERPRISES, INC.

4000 Warner Boulevard, Burbank, California 91522 Phone (213) 843-6000

Thursday 5/29/75

10:55 Walter Coblenz, Producer of "All the President's Men," had been given permission by Ron Nessen to shoot on the White House grounds while the President is away.

522-1557

He had considerable money involved getting ready for the shooting -- and just before he left Nessen's office advised that the White House attorneys will not grant permission.

(Apparently he had been dealing with Bill Casselman; Barry is checking to see what the story is.)

*Bill Casselman  
will talk to Coblenz.  
B.*



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 1, 1975

PROPOSED STATEMENT FOR RON NESSEN TO ISSUE

The President was asked yesterday about the Attorney General's point of view on one of the Rockefeller Commission's recommendations. This recommendation was that criminal investigations of conduct by CIA employees and the decision whether to prosecute should be made by the DOJ, after consideration of Agency views regarding the impact of prosecution on the national security. The Attorney General in his press conference of June 25 said he did not think he would ask the CIA for its views as to the effect on national security of cases where the Justice Department had decided there was a prosecutable offense and not a good defense. The Attorney General also said in regard to discussing beforehand with the President a decision on whether or not to proceed with a prosecution as follows:

"I would feel obligated to tell the President that -- that is, to communicate the position of the Department; but I would not expect the President to tell the Department what to do."

Against this background/<sup>the President</sup> was asked the following questions and gave the following answers yesterday:

"Q: Mr. President, the Attorney General said that his view is that if his investigation which you put him in charge of determines that there was violation of law by anyone in the CIA or in the Government and that there is a reasonable prospect that a prosecution could be successful, that the Department of Justice should proceed and should not give particular weight to the question of any damage that a prosecution would do to the CIA as an organization or to what he called policy considerations about past officials. Do you have any problem with that point of view?

A: The President: I think the Attorney General has to take that position and if that situation develops I would certainly want to discuss the pros and cons. I would hesitate to make an abstract judgment at this point.



Q: But you would expect to be consulted on that?

A: The President: I should think that the President ought to not be -- I think I should be informed. On how you describe the discussion, I certainly ought to be informed if a prosecution is going to potentially harm the national interest. Whether I have the authority or should exercise it is another question, but I would expect to be informed."

The President believes his answers to these questions are consistent with the views of the Attorney General. Both the President and the Attorney General are in accord that the Department of Justice has the full responsibility for investigation of possible criminal conduct and for exercising the President's Constitutional responsibility to take care that the laws are faithfully executed.



*Press Office*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 3, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FROM: JERRY WARREN 

As you know, the President feels that his plan for a competitive nuclear fuels industry carries a very high priority. He would like to see the uranium enrichment legislation enacted quickly, and to do so, he will need your help.

Because of the complexity of the President's proposal, I felt that it would be helpful to put together a package that explains the plan in some detail. I think it is important that the topic be understood by those at the highest level of Government, so that you can adequately convey this message to the public.

Thanks.

Enclosures



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 15, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: LARRY SPEAKES

FROM: BARRY ROTH *BR*

SUBJECT: Nixon Papers Litigation --  
Nixon v. Administrator of  
General Services

Jack Anderson has filed a notice of oral deposition of former President Nixon in connection with the litigation challenging the constitutionality of the legislation (P.L. 93-526) that denies Mr. Nixon custody and control of his Presidential papers. Mr. Nixon's attorneys have filed for a protective order that would allow Nixon to respond instead to questions presented to him in writing.

The Department of Justice, on behalf of the defendant Administrator of General Services (the White House is not a party in this case), will file a motion this afternoon in opposition to Mr. Nixon's motion. Basically, they argue that Anderson's request for an oral deposition is proper so long as Mr. Nixon wishes to continue to use his affidavit in these proceedings. Justice suggests for Mr. Nixon's health, and for convenience in terms of Secret Service protection, that any oral deposition be conducted in or near Mr. Nixon's home rather than in Washington.

Should you receive any inquiries concerning this matter, you may wish to indicate that the White House is not a party in this case, and direct the inquiries to the Department of Justice.

cc: Jack Marsh  
Rod Hills





*Press*

Thursday 7/24/75

Meeting  
7/24/75  
9:45 a. m.

9:10 Phil Jones will have the equipment set up by 9:45 this morning -- you should go to the bench in the Rose Garden on the far side of the Rose Garden (close to the Mansion).



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 26, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK HUSHEN  
FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN *P.W.B.*  
SUBJECT: CHURCH COMMITTEE SUBPOENAS

1. On August 12, 1975, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities issued subpoenas against Arthur Sampson and me demanding that on August 25, 1975, we provide the Committee with any and all dictabelts, tapes, transcripts, memoranda, notes, minutes, and other material within the Presidential materials of the Nixon administration which related to:

- (a) activities during the period September 1-November 3, 1970, directed toward preventing Salvador Allende from assuming the office of President of Chile;
- (b) activities during the period April 1-December 31, 1970, relating to the so-called Huston plan and the Intelligence Evaluation Committee.

2. In earlier correspondence with the Committee we had advised that our access to the Nixon materials was controlled by the order of the District Court in the case of Nixon v. Sampson, et al. and that without court authority we could not even search for materials which the Committee desired. I had suggested that if the Committee were sufficiently interested in obtaining materials from the Nixon collection, it should apply to the court having jurisdiction over the materials.

3. On Tuesday, August 19th, the Justice Department filed in behalf of Arthur Sampson and me a motion in the U. S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia seeking from that court permission to allow the District Court to rule on ~~the~~<sup>2</sup> further motion for clarification of the restraining order which prevented my access to the Nixon materials. The reason for having first to go to the Court of Appeals



was that on January 31, 1975, the Court of Appeals had directed the District Court to take no further steps in the case without permission of the Court of Appeals. Late Friday, August 22, the Court of Appeals authorized the District Court to consider the matter.

4. On Monday, August 25, the Justice Department in behalf of Arthur Sampson and me filed a motion requesting the court to rule on the applicability of its restraining order to the Congressional subpoenas issued by the Select Committee, saying that if we were not under judicially imposed restrictions we would search for the subpoenaed materials and would transmit them in response to the subpoenas unless we found other reasons for not doing so after we had found the materials. The Court has not acted on this motion and undoubtedly will not do so until former President Nixon's attorney has had a chance to be heard on whatever objections he may raise.

5. In the meantime, I have been advised by the General Counsel of the Select Committee that the return dates of the subpoenas have been postponed to Wednesday, August 27, at 9:00 a.m. to allow the Committee time to consider what its further demands on Arthur Sampson and me will be in light of the pending court motion.



Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.

[ca. Sept. 1975]

Did you  
see ?

# Writer Wins Top Award For Series

Stephen M. Aug, staff writer for the Washington Star, has been named winner of one of four top business journalism awards presented by the University of Missouri.



Noted  
P.W.B.

PRESS CALL

Friday 9/19/75

3:30 Jim Adams (AP) would like to talk with you about the House Intelligence Committee actions -- specifically whether the Committee's decision to give 24 hours notice is acceptable to the White House and whether they will be willing to turn over the material to the Committee. 225-3945

*Not to be returned*



# PRESS CALL

Friday 9/19/75

3:55 Eugene Meyer of the Washington Post  
would like to talk with you about Judge Halleck.

223-7254

*Not to be retained*



# PRESS CALL

Friday 9/19/75

4:05 Dennis Farney of the Wall Street Journal  
would like to talk with you -- concerning  
a rumor they have heard that Mr. Hills may be  
in line for the post of SEC Commissioner.

783-0164

*No call back*





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Press Office*

November 5, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:           RON NESSEN  
FROM:                        PHIL BUCHEN *P.*  
SUBJECT:                    Money Magazine Story on the  
                                  First Family's Finances

Referencing your request, I see no advantage in the type of story that Money magazine is desirous of doing. While the public release of a financial statement is a common practice today for candidates for public office, many of the details concerning his spending should be considered as private. Furthermore, I do not think that people are going to relate to the President's \$250,000 annual income. I recommend that you regret this interview on the basis of the President's limited time.



# Money

888 16TH STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C.  
202-293-4300

WILLIAM B. MEAD, Washington Correspondent

October 24, 1975

Mr. Ronald H. Nessen  
Press Secretary to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ron:

For the January or February issue, we would like to do a story on the personal finances of the Fords. The One Family's Finances stories in the enclosed issues will give you an idea of our approach.

There is always interest in the finances of the First Family, but it appears to us that our readers would particularly identify with the Fords in this respect. They aren't particularly wealthy, their values seem to be solidly middle class, and they are going through an expensive period of life with children in college.

In addition, the President has mentioned in speeches that a government budget must be handled with the same prudence as a family budget. I think the Fords' own budget problems and practices would exemplify that concept. Of course, it is not lost on us that 1976 is an election year in which the President might find a straightforward disclosure and discussion of his own finances particularly timely. It would certainly further his reputation for openness and honesty.

To handle the piece well, we need your cooperation and that of the Fords in providing a thorough rundown on assets, income and outgo. We would like to sit down with the whole family to discuss their feeling, philosophy and practices in handling such things as grocery budgets, allowances, college costs, and so forth. Since the Fords made a rather sudden move from suburban living to the White House, we would also want to discuss how the presidency has affected their budgeting and spending. In the two stories I've enclosed, you will notice that we use a panel of advisors. We would be glad to do so



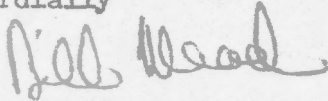
WILLIAM B. MEAD, Washington Correspondent

-2-

with the Fords; we'd also be glad to skip the advisers if they prefer.

It would be a great help if I could hear from you within a week.  
Many thanks for your help.

Cordially



William B. Mead



*Press*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 9, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JACK HUSHEN

FROM:

PHIL BUCHEN *P-*

Attached is a series of letters involving correspondence from Congresswoman Abzug to the President and my replies. Insofar as I know, none of this correspondence has been made public and certainly not by us. However, you indicate a wire story on the subject of the Concorde ~~which~~ appears to reflect part of the contents of my letter of August 23, 1975, which is among the letters attached.

These are being furnished to you for your guidance in answering the press inquiries.

Attachments



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 3, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FROM: DOUGLAS P. BENNETT *DPB*

SUBJECT: Waiver of Conflict of Interest  
and Security Investigation for  
Purposes of Announcement--  
Assistant Secretary of Defense,  
Public Affairs

The President wishes to announce his intention to nominate the appointment of William I. Greener as Assistant Secretary of Defense, Public Affairs. Ken Lazarus has indicated that we may respond that he has no objection to a waiver of the conflicts review in this instance in view of the fact that Mr. Greener's White House statement of financial interest notes only a de minimis interest in an oil lease. He has a current full field investigation completed 11/11/75. I request that you waive the normal procedures for the purposes of nomination and announcement.

P.W.B. Agree

\_\_\_\_\_ Disagree



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Press  
(see  
Holtzman)*

December 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:                      RON NESSEN

FROM:                                      PHIL BUCHEN *P.*

Attached is a copy of a letter to the President of December 11 from Congressperson Holtzman along with an appropriate response for you to send prepared by my staff.

If you have any comments or questions, please call me.

Attachments



*Press office  
no copies  
went out*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 20, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY

FROM: PHIL BUCHEN *P.*

Here is your information copy of a memorandum I have drafted for Bill Greener. In view of the sensitivity of the subject matter and the fact that Bill may not be getting any more questions on this particular subject, please let me know whether I should just keep the memorandum for my files and not send it to Bill.

*KAT?*  
→

*BBC → YES  
NO I*

*Do NOT send  
to Greener.*

Attachment



*Press Office*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: WILLIAM GREENER

FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN *P.*

A Woodward and Bernstein article on events preceding the Nixon pardon appeared in the Washington Post December 18, 1975.

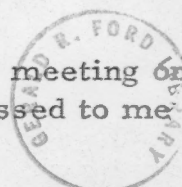
To give you additional background and comments on this article, I point out the following:

1. Woodward came to see me on Tuesday, December 9, ostensibly to check out the veracity of a story he had acquired which involved material he and Bernstein were developing for the book they were nearly finished writing on the first 100 days of the Ford Administration to be published in April. He had much earlier interviewed me for purposes of gathering material for the book and now had some new information that at least partly involved my role in the events.

2. The story he claimed to have was that Len Garment and Ray Price had, early in the morning of August 28, prepared a document addressed to me advocating that the President act promptly to announce his intention to pardon the former President. According to Woodward's informants, the documents involved were a memorandum from Garment pointing out the merits of prompt action and attached to it a draft statement by Price for the President to make such announcement at his upcoming press conference that afternoon. He also stated that Al Haig was given a duplicate of these documents at the same time, that he had presented them to the President early the morning of August 28, and that he then telephoned Garment that the President wanted to go ahead with the suggestion. This development, according to Woodward was followed an hour and a quarter later by a call from Haig to Garment that, contrary to his previous advice, the President had put a "hold" on doing anything along this line.

3. My response to Woodward was as follows:

(a) I did recall that Len Garment, after the staff meeting on the morning of August 28, had handed me a memo addressed to me





which presented the case for the President to respond at his press conference that he intended to pardon the former President but I did not recall that there was any statement by Price or anyone else attached to this memorandum.

(b) I had on August 27 prepared a draft question and answer for the President which in effect called for his stating that he was not ready to make any decision on the matter.

(c) I learned during the course of the morning from the President that he was planning to answer questions about a possible pardon in much the manner I had suggested by my proposed question and answer, and therefore I returned the Garment memo to him either just before the press conference or right afterwards.

(d) I was not aware that anyone else received a copy of the Garment memo or that he had given one to Al Haig if that was the case.

(e) I found incredible the story Woodward gave about the President's having led Al Haig to believe he was going to state at the press conference his intention to grant a pardon, because such story was entirely inconsistent with what I understood from the President was his intention at the press conference and which, as the answers to the questions given, he enunciated.

Woodward then asked whether Ron Nessen could determine from the President whether he in fact did see the Garment memo on the morning of August 28, and I said I would get back to him on the matter.

4. I discussed the matter with Jack Marsh, who had been closely involved at the same time when I was in the developments concerning the matter of the Nixon pardon, and Jack and I talked to the President on December 11.

5. The President advised Jack and me that he had no recollection of seeing any such memo but suggested that I talk to Al Haig.

6. I reached Al Haig in Brussels on Friday, December 12. He acknowledged that he knew of the Garment memo and thought he might have shown it to the President either before or after the press



conference but it could well have been afterwards. He said he would check whatever files he had with him but also suggested I check files here to see if there was any indication that the President might have received a copy of the memo and the date and the time when he did receive it.

7. Through Jim Connor, both the President's files and Al Haig's files were checked, and I was advised that no copy of the memorandum could be found. I also checked my own files and found that I had no copy, which was consistent with my recollection that I had returned the Garment memo to him.

8. Al Haig called me back on Tuesday, December 16, and said he could tell nothing from his records which would indicate whether or when he might have shown the Garment memo to the President. He did say, however, that he was sure he had some discussions with the President on the subject of a possible pardon but he again was unsure whether it was before or after the press conference.

9. I promised Woodward to get back to him within a few days of our original conference, and I talked to him next on Tuesday, December 16, to advise him that the President had no recollection of having seen the Garment memo and that a preliminary check of the files indicated no record of the Garment memo having gone to the President. In fact, we could not even find a copy. I held off being more decisive until I had heard again from Al Haig.

10. Al Haig then called me the same day, but after I had talked with Woodward. On that call, Al said he could not verify anything from his files but that he did recall discussing the pardon with the President and might have done so before the press conference. The next day Woodward called me again to ascertain whether I had found out anything more and I said that we still had not found anything in the files about the Garment memo, but, in the course of the conversation, I said there could have been some discussions that I didn't know about which preceded my first learning on Friday, August 30, that the President had pretty much decided to go ahead with the pardon if I was able to advise him that it was legally possible and provided I obtained certain information from the Special Prosecutor. The portion of the Washington Post article which says that "Buchen acknowledged yesterday that the President now 'recalls that he talked with Haig about the pardon from time to time' -- possibly on the day of his first press conference as President" is not accurate in that I merely stated that the President



may have talked to Haig on the subject of the pardon before making his decision but that the decision was made by the President alone as he had publicly stated. The other quotes were also not accurate in that the President had not asked me to check the files and I did not say so. Actually, I had caused the search as a result of Haig's uncertainty as to what the files might show. I also raised with Woodward the possibility that the pardon could have been discussed after the press conference and before I was involved only because it was customary for the President to conduct a post mortem of his press conferences to review what questions had been given and how they had been answered, although I was not involved in such a post mortem. I also mentioned that the first indication of the President's desire to consider a pardon came to me as a surprise when we met, along with Hartmann, Marsh and Haig, on August 30 as an indication that he had not really addressed the matter until after his press conference when he had had time to reflect on the effect of his answers to three or four different questions on the same subject at the press conference. I also made no statement about Haig's involvement except to say that, so far as I was concerned, he withdrew himself entirely from any followup to the President's tentative plan to go ahead with any pardon if I could advise that he was legally permitted to do so and if the information from the Special Prosecutor was obtained concerning the length of time before a fair trial could be held in the matters under investigation by the Special Prosecutor's office.

11. The Post story says that the question by the House Judiciary Subcommittee about Al Haig's discussing a pardon was rephrased in answering the question. Such is not the case because the question did involve only Haig's discussions "with Richard M. Nixon or representatives of Mr. Nixon" (see question 2 in the attached resolution).

cc: Jack Marsh  
Dick Cheney



# H. RES. 1367

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 16, 1974

Ms. ABZUG (for herself, Mr. BADILLO, Mr. JOHN L. BURTON, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. EILBERG, Mr. HECHLER of West Virginia, Mr. HELSTOSKI, Ms. HOLTZMAN, Mr. KOCH, Mr. ROSENTHAL, Mr. STARK, Mr. STOKES, Mr. SYMINGTON, and Mr. CHARLES H. WILSON of California) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## RESOLUTION

1       *Resolved*, That the President of the United States is  
2 hereby requested to furnish the House, within ten days, with  
3 the following information:

4       1. Did you or your representatives have specific knowl-  
5 edge of any formal criminal charges pending against Richard  
6 M. Nixon prior to issuance of the pardon? If so, what were  
7 these charges?

8       2. Did Alexander Haig refer to or discuss a pardon for  
9 Richard M. Nixon with Richard M. Nixon or representa-  
10 tives of Mr. Nixon at any time during the week of August 4  
11 1974, or at any subsequent time? If so, what promises were



1 made or conditions set for a pardon, if any? If so, were tapes  
2 or transcriptions of any kind made of these conversations or  
3 were any notes taken? If so, please provide such tapes,  
4 transcriptions or notes.

5 3. When was a pardon for Richard M. Nixon first re-  
6 ferred to or discussed with Richard M. Nixon, or representa-  
7 tives or Mr. Nixon, by you or your representatives or aides,  
8 including the period when you were a Member of Congress  
9 or Vice President?

10 4. Who participated in these and subsequent discussions  
11 or negotiations with Richard M. Nixon or his representa-  
12 tives regarding a pardon, and at what specific times and  
13 locations?

14 5. Did you consult with Attorney General William  
15 Saxbe or Special Prosecutor Leon Jaworski before making  
16 the decision to pardon Richard M. Nixon and, if so, what  
17 facts and legal authorities did they give to you?

18 6. Did you consult with the Vice Presidential nominee,  
19 Nelson Rockefeller, before making the decision to pardon  
20 Richard M. Nixon and, if so, what facts and legal authorities  
21 did he give to you?

22 7. Did you consult with any other attorneys or profes-  
23 sors of law before making the decision to pardon Richard M.  
24 Nixon, and, if so, what facts or legal authorities did they  
25 give to you?



1       8. Did you or your representatives ask Richard M.  
2 Nixon to make a confession or statement of criminal guilt,  
3 and, if so, what language was suggested or requested by  
4 you, your representatives, Mr. Nixon, or his representatives?  
5 Was any statement of any kind requested from Mr. Nixon  
6 in exchange for the pardon, and, if so, please provide the  
7 suggested or requested language.

8       9. Was the statement issued by Richard M. Nixon im-  
9 mediately subsequent to announcement of the pardon made  
10 known to you or your representatives prior to its announce-  
11 ment, and was it approved by you or your representatives?

12       10. Did you receive any report from a psychiatrist or  
13 other physician stating that Richard M. Nixon was in other  
14 than good health? If so, please provide such reports.

