

The original documents are located in Box 119, folder “Executive Privilege” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Q. Didn't the President try to invoke Executive privilege over documents held by the two private companies, Western Union International and RCA Global?

A. No. The Defense Department and Justice Department, in communications with the companies, simply pointed out that the subject matter involved in the Committee inquiries to the companies might involve classified information. This information could be covered by certain statutory protection against disclosure.

The companies were therefore requested to protect the information from public disclosure while appropriate procedures to safeguard it were being worked out between the Executive Branch agencies and the Committee.

M. D.
3/4/76