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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 75372
23 December 2013

Mr. John Greenewald
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 30 October 2013 for "Intellipedia entry (from all three Wikis that make up the Intellipedia) for the following entry: WATERGATE." Your request has been assigned Case Number 75372. For purposes of this request and based on the information you provided in your letter, you are considered an "all other" requester. As such, you are allowed 2 hours of search and the duplication of 100 pages at no cost. Since there are no assessable fees, we have not addressed your request for a fee waiver.

Please be advised that our search was conducted using the specific term you provided (i.e. Watergate), as the entry title. To the extent that you seek "all entries that include references to the [topic]", please be advised that this would prove to be an overly broad search. Two requirements must be met in order for a FOIA request to be proper: (1) the request must "reasonably" describe the records sought; and (2) it must be made in accordance with published rules stating the time, place, fees (if any), and procedures to be followed. This portion of your request does not satisfy the first requirement because agency employees familiar with the subject matter of this request cannot locate responsive records without an unreasonable amount of effort. The rationale for this rule is that FOIA was not intended to reduce Government agencies to full-time investigators on behalf of requesters.

Your request has been processed under the FOIA, and the responsive document is enclosed. Certain information, however, has been deleted from the enclosure.

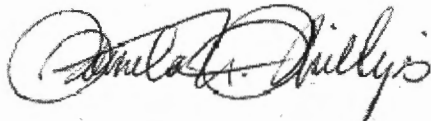
This Agency is authorized by statute to protect certain information concerning its activities, as well as the names of its employees. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the

FOIA, which provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The specific statute applicable in this case is Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 3605, formerly 50 U.S. Code 402 note). We have determined that such information exists in these records, and we have excised it accordingly.

In addition, personal information regarding individuals has been deleted from the enclosures in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(6). This exemption protects from disclosure information that would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. In balancing the public interest for the information you request against the privacy interests involved, we have determined that the privacy interests sufficiently satisfy the requirements for the application of the (b)(6) exemption.

The Initial Denial Authority for NSA information is the Associate Director for Policy and Records, David J. Sherman. Since these deletions may be construed as a partial denial of your request, you are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal procedures. Any person denied access to information may file an appeal to the NSA/CSS Freedom of Information Act Appeal Authority. The appeal must be postmarked no later than 60 calendar days from the date of the initial denial letter. The appeal shall be in writing addressed to the NSA/CSS FOIA Appeal Authority (DJ4), National Security Agency, 9800 Savage Road STE 6248, Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6248. The appeal shall reference the initial denial of access and shall contain, in sufficient detail and particularity, the grounds upon which the requester believes release of the information is required. The NSA/CSS Appeal Authority will endeavor to respond to the appeal within 20 working days after receipt, absent any unusual circumstances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Pamela N. Phillips", written in a cursive style.

PAMELA N. PHILLIPS
Chief
FOIA/PA Office

Encl:
a/s

(U//~~FOUO~~) Watergate



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You have new messages (last change).



(U) Be bold in modifying this **Wikipedia** import .

(U) Correct mistakes; remove bias; categorize; delete superfluous links, templates, and passages; add classified information and citations.

(U) When assimilation into Intellipedia is complete, remove this template and add {{From Wikipedia}}.

The term "**Watergate**" refers to a series of events, spanning from 1972 to 1974, that got its name from burglaries of the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee in the Watergate Hotel complex in Washington, D.C.. Though then-President Richard Nixon had endured two years of mounting political embarrassments, the court-ordered release of the "smoking gun tape" about the burglaries in August 1974 brought with it the prospect of certain impeachment for Nixon, and he resigned only four days later on August 9. He is the only U.S. president to have resigned from the office.



Intelligence History Portal

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The Burglary

On June 17 1972, Frank Wills, a security guard working at the office building of the Watergate complex of office space, residential buildings, and a hotel, noticed a piece of tape on the door between the basement stairwell and the parking garage. It was holding the door unlocked, so Wills removed it, assuming the cleaning crew had put it there. Later, he returned and discovered that the tape had been replaced. Suspicious, Wills then contacted the D.C. police.

After the police came, five men Bernard Barker, Virgilio González, Eugenio Martínez, James W. McCord, Jr., and Frank Sturgis were discovered and arrested for breaking into the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee. The men supposedly had broken into the same office three weeks earlier as well, and had returned intending to fix wiretaps that were not working and, according to some, to photograph documents.

The need to break into the office for a second time was just the highlight of a number of mistakes made by the burglars. Another, the telephone number of E. Howard Hunt in McCord's notebook, proved costly to them and the White House when found by the police. Hunt had previously worked for the White House, while McCord was officially employed as Chief of Security at the Committee to Re-elect the President (CRP), later commonly referred to as CREEP. This quickly suggested that there was a link between the burglars and someone close to the President. However, Nixon's press secretary Ron Ziegler dismissed the affair as a "third-rate burglary". Though the burglary occurred at a sensitive time, with a looming presidential campaign, most Americans initially believed that no President with Nixon's advantage in the polls would be so foolhardy or unethical as to risk association with such an affair.

At his arraignment before Judge John Sirica, burglar McCord identified himself as retired from the Central Intelligence Agency. The Washington D.C. district attorney's office began an investigation of the links between McCord and the CIA, and eventually determined that McCord had received payments from CRP. *Washington Post* reporter Bob Woodward was at the arraignment, and he, along with his colleague, Carl Bernstein, began an investigation into the burglary. Most of what they published was known to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other governmental investigators these were often Woodward's and Bernstein's sources but they helped keep Watergate in the spotlight. Woodward's relations with a principal inside source added an extra layer of mystery to the affair. This source was codenamed "Deep Throat", and his true identity was kept from the public. He informed them that White House Officials had hired 50 agents to sabotage the Democrats' chances in the 1972 election. Decades of speculation on who "Deep Throat" was, ended on May 31, 2005, when W. Mark Felt, the No. 2 official at the FBI in the early 1970s, revealed that he was Deep Throat a claim later confirmed by Woodward.

President Nixon and White House Chief of Staff H. R. "Bob" Haldeman were tape-recorded (a standard, but secret practice that Nixon carried on from past presidents) on June 23 discussing use of the CIA to obstruct the FBI's investigation of the Watergate break-ins. Nixon followed through by asking the CIA to slow the FBI's investigation of the crime, claiming that national security would be put at risk. In fact, the crime and numerous other "dirty tricks" had been undertaken on behalf of CRP, mainly under the direction of Hunt and G. Gordon Liddy. The pair had also worked in the White House in the Special Investigations Unit, nicknamed the "Plumbers." This group investigated leaks of information the administration did not want publicly known, and ran various operations against the Democrats and anti-war protestors. Most famous of their activities was the break-in at the office of the psychiatrist of Daniel Ellsberg. Ellsberg, a former employee of The Pentagon and United States Department of State, had illegally leaked the Pentagon Papers to the *New York Times* and, as a result, was prosecuted for espionage, theft, and conspiracy. The Pentagon Papers were military documents about the Vietnam War and helped increase public opposition to the war. Hunt and Liddy found nothing useful, however, and trashed the office to cover their tracks. The break-in was only linked to the White House much later, at which time it caused the collapse of Ellsberg's trial due to evident government misconduct.

There is still much dispute about the level of involvement of leading figures in the White House, such as Attorney General John John Mitchell, chief of staff Haldeman, leading aides Charles Colson and John Ehrlichman, and Nixon himself. Mitchell dubbed these events the White House horrors. As the head of

CRP, along with campaign manager Jeb Stuart Magruder and Fred LaRue, Mitchell approved Hunt's and Liddy's espionage plans, including the break-in, but whether it went above them is unclear. Magruder, for instance, gave a number of different accounts, including that he had overheard Nixon order Mitchell to conduct the break-in in order to gather intelligence about the activities of Larry O'Brien, the director of the Democratic Campaign Committee.

On January 8, 1973, the original burglars, along with Liddy and Hunt, went to trial. All except McCord and Liddy pleaded guilty, and all were convicted of conspiracy, burglary and wiretapping. The accused had been paid by CRP to plead guilty but say nothing, and their refusal to allocute to the crimes angered the trial judge, John Sirica (known as "Maximum John" because of his harsh sentencing). Sirica handed down thirty-year sentences, but indicated he would reconsider if the group would be more cooperative. McCord complied, implicated CRP in the burglary and the payoff for the burglars' silence, and admitted to perjury.

The Senate Investigation

The connection between the Watergate burglary and the President's re-election campaign fundraising committee dramatically increased the profile of the crime and consequent political stakes. Instead of ending with the trial and conviction of the burglars, the investigations grew broader; a Senate Watergate Committee chaired by Senator Sam Ervin was set up to examine Watergate and started to subpoena White House staff.

On April 30, 1973, Nixon was forced to ask for the resignation of two of his most influential aides, Haldeman and Ehrlichman, both of whom would soon be indicted and ultimately go to prison. He also fired White House counsel John Dean, who had just testified before the Senate and would go on to become the key witness against Nixon himself.

On the same day, Nixon named a new Attorney General, Elliot Richardson, and gave him authority to designate for the growing Watergate inquiry a special counsel who would be independent of the regular United States Department of Justice hierarchy, to preserve his independence. On May 19, Richardson named Archibald Cox to the position. Televised hearings had begun the day before.

The Tapes

The hearings held by the Senate Committee, in which White House Counsel John Dean was the star witness and in which many other former key administration officials gave dramatic testimony, were broadcast from May 17 to August 7, causing devastating political damage to Nixon. Each network carried coverage of the hearings every third day, starting with ABC on May 17 and ending with NBC on August 7. It was estimated that 85% of Americans with television sets tuned in to at least one portion of the hearings. [1] (<http://www.museum.tv/archives/etv/W/htmlW/watergate/watergate.htm>)

Most famously, Republican Senator Howard Baker of Tennessee asked the memorable question "What did the president know, and when did he know it?" which focused attention for the first time on Nixon's personal role in the scandal.

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On July 13, Donald Sanders, the Assistant Minority Counsel, asked Alexander Butterfield if there were any type of recording systems in the White House. Butterfield answered that though he was reluctant to say so, there was a system in the White House that automatically recorded everything in the Oval Office. The shocking revelation radically transformed the Watergate investigation. The tapes were soon subpoenaed by both first special prosecutor Archibald Cox and the Senate, as they might prove whether Nixon or Dean was telling the truth about key meetings. Nixon refused, citing the principle of executive privilege, and ordered Cox, via Attorney General Richardson, to drop his subpoena.

Saturday Night Massacre

Cox's refusal to drop his subpoena led to the "Saturday night massacre" on October 20 1973, when Nixon compelled the resignations of Richardson and then his deputy William Ruckelshaus in a search for someone in the Justice Department willing to fire Cox. This search ended with United States Solicitor General Robert Bork, and the new acting department head dismissed the special prosecutor. Public reaction was immediate and intense, with protestors standing along the sidewalks outside the White House holding signs saying "HONK TO IMPEACH," and hundreds of cars driving by honking their horns. Allegations of wrongdoing famously caused Nixon to state "I am not a crook" in front of 400 Associated Press managing editors at Walt Disney World in Florida on November 17.

Nixon was forced, however, to allow the appointment of a new special prosecutor, Leon Jaworski, who continued the investigation. While Nixon continued to refuse to turn over actual tapes, he did agree to release edited transcripts of a large number of them; Nixon cited the fact that any sensitive national security information could be edited out of the tapes; it was also speculated that the tapes may have contained both foul language and racial slurs which would have made Nixon look bad. The tapes largely confirmed Dean's account, and caused further embarrassment when a crucial, 18½ minute gap of one tape, which had never been out of White House custody, was found to have been erased. The White House blamed this on Nixon's secretary, Rose Mary Woods, who said she had accidentally erased the tape by pushing the wrong foot pedal on her tape player while answering the phone. However, as photos splashed all over the press showed, for Woods to answer the phone and keep her foot on the pedal would have required a stretch that challenged many a gymnast. She was then said to have held this position for the full 18½ minutes. Later forensic analysis determined that the gap had been erased several perhaps as many as eight times over, refuting the "accidental erasure" explanation.

Supreme Court

This issue of access to the tapes went all the way to the Supreme Court of the United States. On July 24 1974, in *United States v. Nixon*, the Court (which did not include the recused William Rehnquist) ruled unanimously that claims of executive privilege over the tapes were void, and they further ordered him to surrender them to Jaworski. On July 30, he complied with the order and released the subpoenaed tapes.

Articles of Impeachment, Resignation, and Convictions

On January 28 1974, Nixon campaign aide Herbert Porter pleaded guilty to the charge of lying to the FBI during the early stages of the Watergate investigation. On February 25, Nixon's personal lawyer Herbert Kalmbach pleaded guilty to two charges of illegal election-campaign activities. Other charges were dropped in return for Kalmbach's cooperation in the forthcoming Watergate trials.

On March 1 1974, former aides of the president, known as the Watergate Seven Haldeman, Ehrlichman, Mitchell, Colson, Gordon C. Strachan, Robert Mardian, and Kenneth Parkinson were indicted for conspiring to hinder the Watergate investigation. The grand jury also secretly named Nixon as an unindicted co-conspirator. Dean, Magruder and other figures in the scandal had already pleaded guilty. Colson stated in his book *Born Again* that he was given a report by a White House aide that clearly implicated the CIA in the whole Watergate scandal and showed an attempt to implicate him as the one responsible.

On April 7, the Watergate grand jury indicted Ed Reinecke, Republican lieutenant governor of California, on three charges of perjury before the Senate committee. On April 5, former Nixon appointments secretary Dwight Chapin was convicted of lying to the grand jury.

Nixon's position was becoming increasingly precarious, and the United States House of Representatives began formal investigations into the possible impeachment of the President. The committee's opening speeches included one by Texas Representative Barbara Jordan that catapulted her to instant nationwide fame. The House Judiciary Committee voted 27 to 11 on July 27, 1974 to recommend the first article of impeachment against the President: obstruction of justice. The second (abuse of power) and third (contempt of Congress) articles were passed on July 29 and July 30, respectively.

In August, the previously unknown tape from June 23, 1972 was released. Recorded only a few days after the break-in, it documented Nixon and Haldeman formulating a plan to block investigations by having the CIA claim to the FBI (falsely) that national security was involved. The tape was referred to as a "smoking gun". With this last piece of evidence, Nixon's few remaining supporters deserted him. The ten congressmen who had voted against all three Articles of Impeachment in committee announced that they would all support impeachment when the vote was taken in the full House. Throughout this time, Nixon still denied any involvement in the ordeal.

Nixon's support in the Senate was weak as well. After being told by key United States Republican Party Senators that enough votes existed to convict him, Nixon decided to resign. In a nationally televised address on the evening of August 8, 1974, he announced he would resign effective noon on August 9. Though Nixon's resignation obviated the pending impeachment, criminal prosecution was still a possibility. He was immediately succeeded by Gerald Ford, who on September 8, 1974, issued a pardon for Nixon, immunizing him from prosecution for any crimes he may have committed as President. Nixon proclaimed his innocence until his death, although his acceptance of the pardon was construed by many as an admission of guilt. He did state in his official response to the pardon that he "was wrong in not acting more decisively and more forthrightly in dealing with Watergate, particularly when it reached the stage of judicial proceedings and grew from a political scandal into a national tragedy."

Colson pleaded guilty to charges concerning the Ellsberg case; in exchange, the indictment against him for covering up the activities of CRP was dropped, as it was against Strachan. The remaining five members of the Watergate Seven indicted in March went on trial in October 1974, and on January 1, 1975, all but Parkinson were found guilty. In 1976, the U.S. Court of Appeals ordered a new trial for Mardian; subsequently, all charges against him were dropped. Haldeman, Ehrlichman, and Mitchell exhausted their appeals in 1977. Ehrlichman entered prison in 1976, followed by the other two in 1977.

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Aftermath

The effects of the Watergate scandal did not by any means end with the resignation of President Nixon and the imprisonment of some of his aides. The effect on the upcoming Senate election and House race only 3 months later, was enormous; voters, disgusted by Nixon's actions, became thoroughly disillusioned with the Republican Party. In that Election, the Democrats gained 5 seats in the Senate and a remarkable 49 in the House.

Indirectly, Watergate was the cause of new laws leading to extensive changes in campaign financing. It was a major factor in the passage of amendments to the Freedom of Information Act in 1986, as well as laws requiring new financial disclosures by key government officials.

While not legally required, other types of personal disclosure, such as releasing recent income tax forms, became expected. Presidents since Franklin D. Roosevelt had recorded many of their conversations, but after Watergate this general practice ended, at least as far as the public knows.

Watergate led to a new era in which the mass media became far more aggressive in reporting on the activities of politicians. For instance, Wilbur Mills, a powerful congressman, was in a drunken driving accident. The incident, similar to others which the press had previously never mentioned, was reported, and Mills soon had to resign from his position as the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. In addition to reporters becoming more aggressive in revealing the personal conduct of key politicians, they also became far more cynical in reporting on political issues. A new generation of reporters, hoping to become the next Woodward and Bernstein, embraced investigative reporting and sought to uncover new scandals in the increasing amounts of financial information being released about politicians and their campaigns.

Since Nixon and many senior officials involved in Watergate were lawyers, the scandal severely tarnished the public image of the legal profession.^[1] In order to defuse public demand for direct federal regulation of lawyers (as opposed to leaving it in the hands of state bar associations or supreme courts), the American Bar Association (ABA) launched two major reforms. First, the ABA decided that its existing Model Code of Professional Responsibility (promulgated 1969) was a failure, and replaced it with the Model Rules of Professional Conduct in 1983. The MRPC has been adopted in part or in whole by 44 states. Its preamble contains an emphatic reminder to young lawyers that the legal profession can remain self-governing only if lawyers behave properly. Second, the ABA promulgated a requirement that law students at ABA-approved law schools take a course in professional responsibility (which means they must study the MRPC). The requirement remains in effect.

The Watergate Scandal in the Media

- Woodward and Bernstein wrote a best-selling book based on their experiences titled *All the President's Men*, published in 1974.
- Dustin Hoffman and Robert Redford starred (as Bernstein and Woodward, respectively) in the 1976 movie *All the President's Men*.
- The Watergate scandal was a primary influence upon the television series *The X-Files*. The first season featured a character (played by Jerry Hardin) modeled after *Deep Background/Deep Throat* and referred to by both names. The second season also featured a similar character simply named X.

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- In *Forrest Gump*, Tom Hanks's character, staying the night at the Watergate (on Nixon's suggestion), innocently complains that he cannot sleep because of the lights from an office across the way from his room. This inadvertently causes guard Frank Wills to investigate and catch the intruders.
- While driving through the rain in the *Rocky Horror Picture Show*, Brad and Janet listen to Richard Nixon's resignation speech. ("I am not a quitter!")
- The movie *Dick* starring Kirsten Dunst and Michelle Williams is based around the story of Watergate.
- In the 2009 movie *Watchmen*, it is alluded to that the character of The Comedian assassinated Woodward and Bernstein, thereby keeping Nixon in office for a third term.

References

1. ↑ Jerold Auerbach, *Unequal Justice: Lawyers and Social Change in Modern America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1976): 301.

External links

- CBS first report on the Watergate scandal, June 19th, 1972 (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I28mQEVJQso>) video
- Watergate trial sketches by artist John D. Hart (<http://www.ericurkewitz.com/watergate/index.htm>)
- White House tape transcripts (<http://www.archives.gov/nixon/tapes/transcripts.html>)
- The White House tapes themselves (<http://www.c-span.org/executive/presidential/nixon.asp>)
- Washington Post Watergate Archive (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/onpolitics/watergate/splash.html>)
- Washington Post Watergate Tape Listening Guide (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/nation/specials/watergate/watergatefront.htm>)
- BBC News reports on Watergate (http://newssearch.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/april/30/newsid_2933000/2933155.stm)
- Watergate.info – The Scandal That Destroyed Pres. Richard Nixon (<http://www.watergate.info/>)
- Watergate Timeline (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/onpolitics/watergate/chronology.htm>)
- Watergate Key Players by Washington Post (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/national/longterm/watergate/players.htm>)
- Schemers In the Web (<http://www.benbest.com/history/schemers.html>)
- Extensive set of online Watergate (<http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/watergate.htm>)
- The Watergate Decade (<http://www.musarium.com/watergate.html>)
- Michael Schudson, *Watergate in American Memory: How We Remember, Forget, and Reconstruct the Past* (New York, 1992)
- Silent Coup (http://users.crocker.com/~acacia/text_sc.html)
- An online wiki to discuss how politics, journalism and current events are related to Watergate (<http://wikigate2.pbwiki.com/>)
- Award-winning author Alicia C. Shepard takes an in-depth look at the professional and personal lives of Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein during/after the Watergate scandal in her book, *Woodward & Bernstein: Life in the Shadow of Watergate* (<http://www.woodwardandbernstein.net/>)

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