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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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IN RE: POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS :  
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OF 18 USC 2511 and 2512 :  
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Grand Jury Room No. 3  
United States District Courthouse  
3rd & Constitution Avenue, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Thursday, February 14, 1974

The testimony of JOHN W. DEAN, III, was presented  
to a full quorum of the Grand Jury.

BEFORE:

RICHARD BEN-VENISTE, ESQ.  
Assistant Special Prosecutor  
U. S. Department of Justice

JILL VOLNER  
Assistant Special Prosecutor  
U. S. Department of Justice

GERALD GOLDMAN, ESQ.  
Assistant Special Prosecutor  
U. S. Department of Justice

GEORGE T. FRAMPTON, JR., ESQ.  
Assistant Special Prosecutor  
U. S. Department of Justice

ELIZABETH ANN TIPTON  
11225 Dewey Court  
Kensington, Maryland 20795  
(301) 946-4436

19 Q Now, there came a time, on the 15th of April, when  
20 you met with the President. Is that correct?

21 A That is correct.

22 Q And what led up to that meeting?

23 A Well, there were, of course, a series of events,  
24 starting with my volunteering myself to the original Watergate  
25 Prosecutors. It culminated when I had told Mr. Haldeman and

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1 Erhlichman that I thought that they were targets of the Grand  
2 Jury in the eyes of the prosecutors, and they had asked me  
3 why I thought that, and I did not reveal to them, at that  
4 time, I'd been to the prosecutors and been dealing with them  
5 for several weeks, trying to explain to the prosecutors what  
6 had happened.

7           Rather, I told them that my attorneys had told me  
8 this which, in fact, was true, and that this really got their  
9 attention because Mr. Ehrlichman told me that he had talked  
10 to Kleindienst and he was unaware of any such pursuit by the  
11 U. S. Attorney's Office of the Grand Jury.

12           So that was the 14th we had that conversation. It  
13 might have been the 15th. Well, anyway, I'm giving you the  
14 events leading up to my arrival on the 15th.

15           I had a call -- I'd been with my attorney all day,  
16 and I had a call from Mr. Ehrlichman, apparently, several  
17 times in the latter part of the day, requesting that I return  
18 the call, and I didn't do it until I arrived home about 7:30.

19           When I called him, he told me that -- and, of course,  
20 I was aware from the preceding evening, what had gone on, -- that  
21 Mr. Glanzer had called my attorney to tell him that they were  
22 going to have to report to the Attorney General that I had  
23 been to visit them.

24           Since I was well aware of the fact that Mr. Ehrlich-  
25 man was probably aware of it by now, also.

1           And when I got Ehrlichman on the telephone about,  
2 oh, quarter of eight, or so, he told me that he just happened  
3 to be going back into the office and he would enjoy chatting  
4 with me, if I would come by his office. I said, "All right."  
5 I really said not much more, and then called my lawyer, Mr.  
6 Shaffer, and told him that Ehrlichman wanted to meet with  
7 me. I told Mr. Shaffer I didn't want to meet with Ehrlichman  
8 but I thought, indeed, I should meet with the President and  
9 tell him what I had done. Mr. Shaffer agreed.

10           I tried to reach Rosemary Woods, thinking that she  
11 would take the message directly to the President without  
12 having to go through Haldeman and Ehrlichman. She was at a  
13 funeral out of the city. So I was left with no alternative  
14 but to go through Mr. Haldeman and I called Mr. Higby.

15           I gave him a message, which I wrote down right after  
16 I did it, and I think it's a public document now.

17           As a result of that call to Mr. Higby, in which I  
18 indicated he should inform Haldeman and Ehrlichman and, I  
19 assumed, Mr. Haldeman would inform the President, my phone  
20 started ringing about thirty minutes later. And it was the  
21 White House operator indicating that the President wanted to  
22 meet with me about 9:00 o'clock.

23           I told her I would be in as soon as I could get in,  
24 and I don't think I arrived quite at 9:00, but shortly there-  
25 after, and that's what prompted me --

1 Q What was the substance of the conversation on the  
2 15th?

3 A Well, the meeting was much different from most  
4 meetings I have had with the President. I was uncomfortable  
5 -- very uncomfortable -- because I had taken it upon myself  
6 to go to the prosecutors, and thought I ought to tell him  
7 that.

8 So I initiated what I had done and why I had done  
9 it and then he began asking me a series of rather leading  
10 questions and I provided him the answers to the questions  
11 as we went along.

12 One time, during the conversation, the question of  
13 Mr. Liddy coming forward came up and he interrupted our  
14 meeting to call Mr. Petersen and tell him my suggestion, that  
15 he might personally meet with Mr. Maroulis and have Mr. Liddy  
16 come forward.

17 He asked me -- he talked about immunity and I told  
18 him I had no deal for immunity with the prosecutors, and he  
19 told me, well, there was nothing he would do that would in-  
20 terfere with my discussions with the prosecutors.

21 At one point in the meeting, he mentioned to me  
22 something I had forgotten about. It was the fact that we had  
23 discussed that there would be no problem to raise a million  
24 dollars to pay these people, the defendants, and he told me  
25 I should understand that he was only joking when he raised

1 that.

2 He also asked me if I had conversations with the  
3 prosecutors about my conversations with him, and I told him,  
4 no, I had not -- which I had not. And he told me I could  
5 not have such conversations with the prosecutors; that that  
6 was Executive Privilege or national security information.

7 He -- at one point, he got up and went over to the  
8 corner of his office and raised the question of his conversa-  
9 tion with Mr. Colson regarding clemency for Hunt. He said to  
10 me that he was foolish to talk to Mr. Colson, wasn't he, and  
11 I don't recall that I responded to his comment.

12 It was a wide-ranging meeting. He was searching for  
13 a date, at one time in the meeting. He asked me if I remem-  
14 bered when I'd given him my counsel on the Presidency speech.  
15 He said was that the 21st, and I said I wasn't certain of the  
16 date, which I wasn't, at that time. I said I would check,  
17 try to figure it out. I just couldn't answer it specifically.

18 As I say, it was a very wide-ranging conversation.  
19 He was doing most of the questioning and trying to lead me  
20 along into the answers I presume he wanted.

21 Q Now, on the 16th, you had conversations with the  
22 President, I believe, on two occasions?

23 A That is correct.

24 Q And this Grand Jury has also heard tape recordings  
25 of those conversations, so it isn't necessary to go into them.