

# 'Panic' at the White House over pardon

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Ford yesterday issued new explanations of the Watergate pardon policy that provoked bitter protest Tuesday, saying he will only consider individual clemency pleas and not blanket pardons for all the defendants.

A presidential aide, who declined to be identified for publication, said "panic" had set in at the White House when Ford's pardon of Richard M. Nixon caused a public outcry and the follow-up promise to study further Watergate pardons "may have been a trial balloon," too hastily floated.

Ford relayed the clarifications through White House aides and Republican congressional leaders in an apparent attempt to cool the controversy stirred by the Nixon pardon and doubled by Tuesday's announcement that possible pardons for all Watergate defendants were "under study."

"There is no study going on," said Senate Republican Leader Hugh Scott, who read Ford's brief restatement of pardon policy after he and other Republican congressmen had conferred with the President for nearly two hours.

Rep. John Anderson, R-Ill., said the congressmen had simply acquiesced the President with the fact that in both the House and the Senate there was intense opposition to any blanket pardon. It was direct. There was no pussyfooting.

But John W. Hushen, the deputy White House press

spokesman, later qualified Scott's remark on the "study" issue. He said Ford is not studying specific Watergate pardons and has so far received no requests for any, but he has directed his staff to conduct several legal studies of his pardoning powers.

"There was never any consideration of blanket amnesty or pardons" for the 48 persons so far jailed or indicted on Watergate charges, Hushen said.

This seemed a direct contradiction of Hushen's statement 24 hours earlier that "the entire matter of Watergate pardons is under study."

Ford's statement, read by Scott, said in effect that the pardon of Richard M. Nixon had been a one-shot affair that had no bearing on the fate of the other Watergate figures, including the six facing trial Sept. 30 on cover-up charges.

The announcement yesterday by Mr. Hushen concerning the study of the entire matter of presidential clemency and pardon was prompted by inquiries to the White House press office concerning Mrs. John Dean's reported statement in reference to pardoning her husband, Nixon's former White House counsel and similar public statements in behalf of others, Ford said.

"Such a study is, of course, made for any requests concerning pardon of any individual."

"However, no inference should be drawn as to the outcome of such studies in any case. Nor is my pardon of the former President under the unique circumstances stated by me in granting it, related to any other case which is or may be under study."

At Tuesday's briefing, Hushen told questioners the pardon "study" had not been prompted by Mrs. Dean's plea on behalf of her husband, Nixon's chief Watergate accuser who is currently serving a prison sentence.

The presidential aide who described Tuesday's pardon study statement as a possible "trial balloon" said Ford had consulted only Hushen and White House counsel Robert Hartmann before hastily formulating that statement.

Congressional reaction Tuesday was swift and almost unanimously bitter. Republicans and Democrats alike, including some who defended the Nixon pardon, opposed the prospect of quick pardons for the other Watergate defendants.

The reaction appeared to finish Ford's congressional "honeymoon" already worn thin by the Nixon issue and economic policy disagreements.

Some congressmen began organizing anti-pardon maneuvers yesterday.

Sens. Alan Cranston, D-Calif., Edward Brooke, R-Mass., and Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., said they would introduce "sense

of the Senate" resolutions urging Ford to grant no further Watergate pardons until the judicial process is completed in each case.

In the House, Rep. Wayne Owens, D-Utah, said he would introduce a "sense of Congress" resolution to proceed with indictments against Nixon and make public any indictable evidence.

Hushen said White House staffers are now studying several areas of presidential pardon authority, including his authority to pardon Nixon, his authority to grant amnesty to Vietnam War resisters and his right to pardon Watergate defendants. Presidential counsel Philip Buchen is in charge of the overall Watergate pardon study, Hushen said.

On Capitol Hill, chairman Peter W. Rodino of the House Judiciary Committee said he had directed his staff to "start a study of the entire question of presidential pardon."

"I want to know about the specificity of such pardons," Rodino said. "Can it be granted before specific charges have been made or can it just be general and in advance like this one, the Nixon pardon?"

"It's not aimed at this pardon but the study is a result of it."

Rodino, D-N.J., also supported a proposal by Rep. Gilbert Gude, R-Md., that Congress order the Watergate prosecutor to make public all evidence of wrongdoing his office has against Nixon.

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### Ready for Stanford?

FALL TERM MEANS footballs at Beaver Stadium and even here in front of West Halls.

## Haldeman charges trial tainted by Nixon pardon

WASHINGTON (UPI) — H.R. Haldeman charged yesterday that the "extraordinary event" of Richard Nixon's pardon has only added to massive publicity in the Watergate cover-up and further threatens prospects for a fair trial.

The first of the six cover-up defendants to react formally to President Ford's pardon of Nixon, Haldeman filed motions in federal court challenging jury selection procedures and the intention of U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica to sequester jurors throughout the long trial to guard against the influence of publicity.

Sirica meanwhile turned down another plea by Haldeman to delay the trial scheduled to begin Sept. 30, and rejected a plea from another defendant, Gordon Strachan, that charges against him be dropped because of tainted evidence.

"The tidal wave of prejudicial pretrial publicity that has been cascading down on these veniremen (prospective jurors) for the past couple of years, and especially during the past two months, has been such that it seems doubtful that any jurors ultimately selected to hear this case could be further affected by the extrajudicial publicity that will flow out of this trial," Haldeman's lawyers said.

"While the debate regarding the propriety of the grant of pardon to

former President Nixon likely will continue for the indefinite future, the veniremen have already been affected by this news and sequestration will not erase this extraordinary event from their minds."

Haldeman asked — as co-defendant John N. Mitchell had even before the Nixon pardon — that the jurors not be locked up during the trial, due to start Sept. 30.

He also complained about the preliminary screening procedures Sirica has used to select the jury pool from which the cover-up jury will be chosen.

He said Sirica was following "an easy excuse policy" and complained that defendants had had no voice in the process.

On July 3, Sirica sent out questionnaires to 1,000 prospective jurors in the District of Columbia asking if it would be a hardship for them to serve on a sequestered jury in a criminal case expected to last from three to four months.

The Sirica letter did not say it was the Watergate cover-up case, but Haldeman charged Sirica's description of it "could leave no doubt in the minds of those persons being queried" what he was talking about.

Haldeman's brief said Sirica received 764 responses and excused 318 persons who said they could not serve because of pressing family, health or business problems. He also said Sirica arbitrarily stopped processing returns when he obtained 400 available jurors.

Of those, Haldeman said, exactly half are non-wage earners — either unemployed, retired, or nonworking housewives. He said this is an unrepresentative pool and that all 400 should be excused so that jury selection could begin from scratch.

He said the procedures followed by Sirica, plus the fact that lawyers for the defendants had no part in considering the excuses submitted, "irrevocably tainted the selection process."

Meanwhile, lawyers for the six former presidential aides, accused of conspiring to hush up the bugging scandal, were preparing to seek dismissal of the indictments on grounds their clients should not be punished now that Nixon has been pardoned.

Formal filing of those motions with Sirica was delayed while defense attorneys waited for further signals from the White House concerning possible clemency now that Ford has pardoned Nixon.

Haldeman, once Nixon's chief of staff, contends Congress had no authority to extend the life of a Watergate grand jury beyond its scheduled termination last December and thus the cover-up indictments returned March 1 are illegal.

Both Sirica and a federal appeals court have rejected that argument and the case is now awaiting action in the Supreme Court which is in recess until October. Sirica said Haldeman's position is "without merit" in refusing to delay the trial.

## CRATS findings nearing release

By DAVE SHAFFER  
Collegian Staff Writer

The Centre Region Area Transportation Study (CRATS), which has been chugging along quietly behind the scene for most of the summer, is expected to release preliminary findings sometime next month.

The CRATS Citizens Advisory Committee received the progress report last night at the first meeting since early summer. Little action was taken, although committee members were asked to prepare for next month's meeting to review the findings.

The purpose of CRATS is to determine how the Centre Region will grow in the next 25 years and find solutions to transportation problems created by higher population.

Last June the study selected two land-use strategies which attempt to show

patterns of growth under certain zoning and where the future population will live in the region.

The strategies being tested are known as Modified Corridor and Present Trends. The Corridor Strategy would create suburbs in agricultural areas on the outskirts of the borough.

Present Trends implies development would continue under existing zoning regulations. Single-family homes would increase in present rural and forested areas and strip commercial zoning would continue along College Avenue and Atherton Street.

The transportation and population-trend testing is done by computer. The final output will be a complex series of figures on road use and the number of trips individuals make each day.

Much controversy in the CRATS program is linked to the proposed State

College by-pass of Atherton Street. The question is whether to consider the by-pass already built for the purposes of future transportation tests.

At the meeting last night Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) officials and the Centre Citizens Council, which is opposed to the by-pass, debated the question but reached no compromise or solution.

Other committees in the CRATS program have been asked to test future transportation with and without consideration of the by-pass. PennDOT — which is financing the study — claims it would create additional costs which must be paid for by local funds.

The resolution of the by-pass controversy will determine its status in CRATS.

CRATS is also considering how future

roads will affect the appearance of the community.

The Citizens Advisory Committee also approved a policy to preserve the borough's open spaces and wooded areas when considering future transportation questions.

At the next committee meeting citizens will have access to some of the preliminary findings of the study. Present traffic problems and their resolution in terms of an over-all transportation scheme will be discussed.

### Weather

Foggy this morning with considerable cloudiness and a chance of showers this afternoon. Foggy tomorrow morning, cloudy with a chance of showers in the afternoon. Highs both days 80, low tonight 62.

## Labor protests inflation fight

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's top labor leaders told President Ford yesterday the government's anti-inflation policies aren't working and threaten to plunge the country into a severe recession with high unemployment.

At a White House meeting in advance of the Sept. 27-28 conference on inflation, Ford announced he is moving to create 85,000 new public jobs to ease unemployment. At the same time, state public utility commissioners were meeting with federal officials on rate increases for electric companies that might drive electric bills up.

Ford told the labor leaders he will speed up spending of \$415 million in funds already set aside for jobs to be created in state and local governments.

Another \$1.3 billion will be available to local governments for manpower programs, he said.

Ford said his administration will watch unemployment — now about 5.4 per cent of the labor force — and "act with compassion" if it gets out of hand.

"We will not permit the burden of necessary economic restraint to fall on those members of society least able to bear the costs," Ford said.

But George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO, said labor leaders are very concerned that the administration's anti-inflation policies will worsen what he called the country's recession.

"We've been going downhill for 5-2 years under the present economic policies we have right at this

minute," said Meany, who is head of the 13.5-million-member union.

"We believe that budget cuts, high interest rates and tight money supply are not going to work in today's inflation," he added.

Meany, who sat directly across from Ford at a table in the White House East Room, complimented the President for being willing to listen and called for "new thinking, new ideas and new directions" in government economic policies.

"Labor will join and cooperate in any program that is equitable," Meany said.

Ford, who sat with the labor leaders for nearly three hours, said he needed labor's advice on what to do about inflation.

He called for both labor and industry to use restraint in future wage and price increases.

The administration, he said, has prepared contingency plans which it will send to Congress to ease unemployment if it appears the jobless rate will rise to "substantially higher levels." He said, "We certainly can not be complacent about any American lacking work."

The labor leaders were nearly unanimous in calling for a reversal of the government's tight money policies, which have led to record high interest rates, and they warned against plans to cut federal spending. Chairman Arthur F. Burns of the Federal Reserve Board, who was at the conference along with other government economic experts, said he would take the labor leaders' views on tight money and high interest rates into consideration.

## Shapp subpoenaed by House

HARRISBURG (AP) — A House committee formally served Gov. Shapp with a subpoena yesterday after he rejected a compromise that would have given the panel access to his income tax records.

Shapp, claiming that the committee's proposal needed additional revision to protect his privacy, suggested that an independent auditor be selected to act as intermediary.

Rep. Patrick Gleason, chairman of the committee looking into alleged irregularities in state contract practices, quickly rejected Shapp's proposal.

Over five weeks have passed since this committee first asked for these materials. Gleason wrote in a letter to the governor, "We have attempted to accommodate you in good faith, but we can wait no longer."

Shapp has until Monday to comply with the subpoena by turning over to the Republican-controlled committee all of his income tax records from 1970 to the present.

The committee originally voted along

*'We have attempted to accommodate you in good faith, but we can wait no longer.'*

party lines Aug. 19 to subpoena Shapp's records. Gleason, R-Cambria, said he delayed serving the subpoena when the governor agreed to have his attorneys meet with committee counsel to develop a compromise.

After negotiations, the attorneys came up with a list of alternatives. The committee voted last week to permit Shapp to retain control of the records as long as investigators could have unlimited access to them.

However, yesterday's subpoena demands that the records be turned over to the committee, though Gleason said he

would still be willing to let Shapp maintain possession of the records as called for in the committee's compromise.

"I am quite willing to accept a compromise concerning your request for information which you believe is contained in my tax returns," Shapp wrote Gleason yesterday.

But, Shapp added, he still cannot see what relevance the income tax records will have to the committee's inquiry.

The governor said he was concerned about language in the committee's proposal that allowed investigators "as long as necessary" to study the tax data.

Also left vague, said Shapp, was the number of committee representatives that would see the records.

Claiming that the committee had agreed to the use of a third person to handle "mutually agreed upon questions," Shapp said he was willing to give the data to that person. He in turn would field questions from the committee and would state whether the information was contained in the records. "Relevant" information would then be turned over to the committee, Shapp said.

Gleason denied that the committee had ever accepted the use of a third person or auditor.

Gleason said he wants the tax data for information they may contain about loans made to Shapp campaign committees in 1970 and what profit he made on the sale of a Williamsport cable television company.

Shapp had said he made in excess of \$1.8 million on the sale of three cable television companies in 1971.