

Ehrlichman: I was fooled

WASHINGTON (AP)—John D. Ehrlichman testified yesterday the "in at least four major instances" he was deceived through false impressions given him by former President Richard M. Nixon.

"I feel there is ample showing on the record that I was deceived," said Ehrlichman, who served as Nixon's top domestic adviser.

Ehrlichman insisted that "time after time" he advocated full disclosure of what was known about the Watergate break-in and aftermath and added:

"The fact is, as I look back and I add it all up, I knew pitifully little about the matter."

Ehrlichman's statement came near the end of a long day of heated cross-examination at the Watergate cover-up trial.

Prosecutor James S. Neal, who shot question after question at Ehrlichman,

reminded him that his lawyer has said Nixon "deceived, misled, and lied to you."

Neal continued; "You are saying that you were only a silent listener, that's basically your testimony, isn't it, Mr. Ehrlichman?"

Ehrlichman replied:

"When I listened to the tapes it was clear to me that in at least four major instances the impressions given to me by the former president were false."

Earlier, Ehrlichman admitted that he didn't tell all he knew about Watergate to the FBI, the grand jury, and even his colleagues in the Nixon administration.

Ehrlichman's cross-examination brought the sharpest clash yet at the trial.

Ehrlichman's lawyer, William S. Frates, accused Neal of grandstanding before audience and press because he wanted to run for political office in his

native Tennessee. Neal called the remarks "dispicable."

In Nashville, attorney Aubrey Harwell, former law partner of Neal, said there is "absolutely no truth to the rumor" that Neal plans to run for political office.

In the instances of false impressions from Nixon, Ehrlichman cited a June 23, 1972, meeting at which Nixon and H. R. Haldeman discussed diverting the FBI investigation; and a March 1973 meeting when White House counsel John W. Dean III told Nixon about a cancer on the presidency. Ehrlichman said that Nixon got "impressions from Mr. Dean that he did not impart to me."

Ehrlichman also said that at a March 22, 1973, meeting with Nixon, John Mitchell and Haldeman he thought full disclosure had been agreed on. But, he said, "what I thought we had agreed on in principle...in fact was opposite."

Ehrlichman testified earlier that he had tried from the start to get White House and re-election committee officials to tell all they knew about Watergate.

Under cross-examination, he admitted that on June 21, 1972, he knew that Watergate mastermind, G. Gordon Liddy, had told White House counsel John W. Dean III the story of the break-in, that Liddy had tried to get the Watergate burglars out of jail by talking with the attorney general at his golf club and that there had been discussions about turning materials found in a White House safe over to the FBI.

Yet, Neal brought out, Ehrlichman told none of this to the grand jury when he testified under oath on May 3 and May 9, 1973.

"I'm afraid I was not responsive," Ehrlichman said at one point.

Committee ok's job legislation

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee yesterday unanimously approved a bill to provide more than \$6 billion worth of jobs or jobless benefits to people thrown out of work in the recession.

A comparable but less sweeping bill awaits action in the House. And before the week is out, Congress is expected to have enacted one of the biggest attacks on unemployment since the Depression.

The Senate bill authorizes up to \$4 billion to create 500,000 or more jobs in 1975 for the unemployed. The House bill provides \$2 billion for the first six months of next year.

In addition, both measures would provide unemployment benefits for workers in 12 million jobs not now covered by federal-state unemployment compensation programs.

Most are jobs on state or local payrolls as farm hands or domestic workers. Benefits paid would be equal to what state workers covered by unemployment compensation are entitled to receive.

If the unemployment rate stays at 6.5 per cent, the federal cost would be between \$2.25 billion and \$2.5 billion. The jobs programs goes beyond

what President Ford advocated but he is expected to sign the measure. Ford wanted the government to finance jobs on projects which terminate in six months to avoid long-term additions to government payrolls.

The bills are designed to create jobs paying an average of \$7,500 a year. They are expected to be in hospitals, park and forestry programs, schools, police and fire departments and similar agencies.

Committee aides said an appropriation bill to finance the program with \$1 billion at once so hiring may begin in January is expected to pass before Congress adjourns before Christmas. Additional funds would be provided next year.

In addition to the jobs and benefits bills, Congress is expected before adjourning to approve another measure providing up to 26 weeks of payments to workers covered by unemployment compensation, at a federal cost of \$1.1 billion.

In states where benefits now run for 26 weeks, workers would then be eligible for a full year of benefits. The House Ways and Means Committee approved the bill Tuesday and it awaits House action.

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Ford sees break in prices; will suggest new measures

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Ford said last night that the battle against rising prices is beginning to be won and that he soon will give Congress new plans for defeating "all three domestic devils—inflation, recession and energy."

In his address to members of the prestigious Business Council, Ford also said, "I intend to keep my experts working over the holidays translating into specifics a number of new or alternative measures to augment and update the economic package I placed before the Congress two months ago..."

"I will have my new proposals on the desks of the new members of Congress when they convene in mid-January, if not sooner."

Ford said he told a White House meeting of Democratic and Republican congressional leaders yesterday morning that in the remaining days of the current Congress, "I would communicate, conciliate, compromise and cooperate to the outer limits of my fundamental principles in order to ensure prompt enactment of the most urgent economic measures."

It was also reported Ford told the congressmen he saw no need for even standby authority to impose wage and price controls and had given up hope of any action this year on his proposal for a

5 per cent surtax on federal income tax.

Ford also asked the congressmen for "a moratorium on politics" while he considers possible new steps to deal with economic ills.

The President said in his speech that his priority measures included the trade reform act, increasing unemployment benefits, creating public service jobs for the unemployed and extending the length of time unemployment benefits are available to the jobless. Ford did not specify what new measures he will ask the next Congress to enact.

However he said, "I will continue to press for legislation and regulatory policies providing increased incentives and assistance for industrial modernization, replacement and expansion to assure a sound industrial base...so that new jobs will be created."

Ford has been criticized in the press and in Congress for making foreign trips while the American economy is ill at home. Referring to his three-day meeting with President Valery Giscard d'Estaing of France this coming weekend on the Caribbean island of Martinique, the President said the trip could aid in fighting the energy problem.

"When I fly to meet the President of France this weekend, I will by no means be neglecting our domestic difficulties if I improve the climate of cooperation among the fuel-consuming industrial nations by a common effort to insure adequate fuel and food supplies at acceptable prices," Ford said.

But Ford did not shy away from use of the word recession in his speech.

"Now for the straight talk. The economy is in difficult straits. We are in a recession. Production is declining and unemployment is rising...nevertheless, our country is not in an economic crisis," he said.

In the advance text of the speech, provided by the White House, the word not and the word crisis were underlined. Ford said the country has a national problem instead of a crisis and the word problem was also underlined.

"A crisis—in the sense of a national crisis—is something that demands immediate and drastic action. A national problem is something that demands widespread understanding and carefully deliberated solutions—cures that are not worse than the disease," he said.

Newton also said he saw the subpoenaed tape twice before the committee knew it existed and both times Cernusca was in possession of the tape. There was no mention that the tape belonged to Richardson, he added.

Cernusca's argument against the second article involved a distinction between misfeasance and malfeasance.

Cernusca said the USG Constitution gives malfeasance as ground for impeachment, but Article II cited misfeasance.

Cernusca and Newton debated definitions of the two words. Newton said misfeasance is wrong conduct, not necessarily illegal. Malfeasance is wrong and illegal conduct, he said.

Newton said the Senate did not use the same word as the Constitution because it saw the meanings of the two words as too close to separate.

Cernusca said his "working definition" of misfeasance was an action which, though harmful to an organization, was done unknowingly.

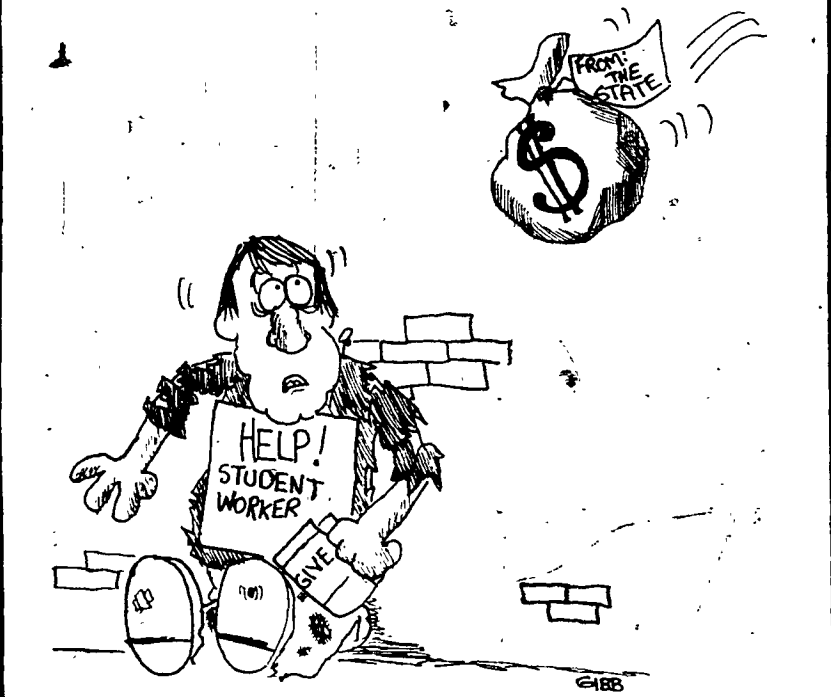
He also said the Senate must have seen a difference in the meaning of the two words, since it used both terms at different times. (Impeachment Article III found him guilty of malfeasance.)

Newton argued his case vigorously in Court but told Cernusca during a recess that "the whole prosecution is based on Article III." Article III's constitutionality has not yet been discussed in Court.

Questions from the Court mostly dealt with the committee's subpoena. Justices were confused as to why the committee upheld the contempt charge when it found out Cernusca did not own the tape it wanted.

The Senate has requested the Court to rescind the writ of mandamus even though there are two more grievances to be heard.

This action would mean a Senate trial within three weeks, according to the USG constitution, and Christmas spent in State College for all involved.



Shapp signs bill increasing state minimum wage

HARRISBURG (AP) — Legislation raising Pennsylvania's minimum wage from \$1.60 to \$1.90 an hour has been signed into law by Gov. Shapp, the governor's office announced yesterday.

The minimum wage goes to \$2 an hour on Jan. 1 under the measure, one of 42 bills signed by Shapp. One bill involving urban redevelopment was vetoed.

The wage law directly affects an estimated one million employees in the state who are not covered by federal minimum wage laws. It brings them up to the standards of those who are covered by the federal statutes.

The state law applies to companies with gross annual sales under \$250,000; the federal law applies to firms above that limit. Both laws require annual increases in the minimum wage, so that by 1977 it will be \$2.30.

The law hikes minimum student wages from \$1 an hour to 85 per cent of the existing regular minimum or \$1.70 after Jan. 1. It also prohibits a firm from paying such wages to more than four students and limits their hours to 20 per week.

The law states that tips belong entirely to the employees who receive them.

The Pennsylvania measure which officially became law Tuesday, also extends requirements for paying overtime.

"Payment of time-and-a-half for overtime will be required for the first time to employees of hotels, motels and restaurants, of bowling alleys and those involved in preparing or serving food and beverages in other businesses," the governor's office said.

Overtime pay will be required as of now for working more than 48 hours a week," a Shapp spokesman said. "As of May 1, 1975, that will be lowered to 46 hours for tipped hotel, motel and restaurant employees and to 44 for other types of employees."

The one bill vetoed by Shapp apparently was intended to require city council approval for certain appointments to municipal redevelopment authorities. Shapp

said the bill was "so poorly drafted" that it would confuse anyone who tried to follow it.

Among legislation signed by the governor:

- A bill expanding temporary release programs for prisoners serving terms of less than five years. It gives courts the right to free prisoners for "necessary and appropriate" purposes other than the work-related reasons previously specified.
- An amendment to the insurance law to regulate companies with assets of less than \$1 million or with fewer than 5,000 persons owning security. Such companies were previously exempt from such regulation.
- A bill authorizing the Game Commission to add agents to issue non-resident hunting licenses. Such functions had been restricted to county treasurers and six commission field offices.
- A bill stiffening penalties for persons who assault others with a deadly instrument after having been convicted or while confined for other charges.
- A bill permitting the appointment of assistant district attorneys in all counties.
- A requirement that utilities record the locations of underground lines. The bill also requires contractors to obtain maps showing the locations from county offices before excavation, and to immediately report any break or leak.
- A bill exempting charitable organizations receiving less than \$7,500 a year from filing a statement with the Bureau of Charitable Solicitations.
- A bill increasing penalties for illegal acquisition or possession of weapons in prisons or mental hospitals.
- An amendment to redevelopment statutes that drop the \$1 million yearly limit on Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority loans to industrial park projects.
- The governor also signed a variety of other bills providing closer regulation of the insurance industry.

Court hears Cernusca grievances

Now that term break is over the Undergraduate Student Government again is ready to talk impeachment.

The impeachment case against USG President George Cernusca still is held up by the USG Supreme Court's writ of mandamus, which prohibits USG from holding a trial or meeting in joint session with the Academic Assembly to discuss impeachment.

But last night the Court heard arguments on two of the grievances filed by Cernusca.

The grievances dealt with the constitutionality of Impeachment Articles One and Two passed by the USG Senate. Impeachment Article I cited Cernusca for failure to comply

News analysis

with a subpoena, issued by the Senate's special insurance committee, for a tape recording.

Cernusca claimed he did not turn in the tape because it belonged to his former aide, Eric Richardson. The committee kept the contempt citation because the time limit for the subpoena ran out before Cernusca informed the committee the tape as Richardson's.

Cernusca said Article I is invalid because it is based on Senate Resolution 9, which states that failure to comply with a special insurance committee subpoena is an impeachable offense.

He said Resolution 9 is only valid for the Senate, while both the Senate and the Academic Assembly must vote on impeachment.

In arguments for the constitutionality of Article I, James Newton, Cernusca's former assistant who is now counsel for the respondents, read the Senate's standing rules which give any Senate committee subpoena power.

Rockefeller said the total flight cost for the Gulfstream II aircraft for Kissinger's party came to about \$8,295, but the total had been allocated to the entire party accompanying Kissinger — including his Secret Service agents.

"The cost allocable to each individual is less than \$3,000 and, therefore, no gifts were required to be reported under the law on my gift tax returns for the first two quarters of 1974," Rockefeller explained.

Eilberg, in an interview, described it as "the kind of tax gimmick that only a rich man can afford to pay lawyers to figure out."

In the Senate, where Rockefeller was opposed by only 7 members but where the committee investigation and hearings dragged on for months, Sen.

William Brock, R-Tenn., introduced a bill to revise the selection procedure for vice presidents.

He proposed a new system under which potential presidential nominees would select 10 names for investigation by the FBI before the actual selection in a party convention, and would have to make his choice from among them. A President seeking to fill a vice presidential vacancy would follow the same process.

Weather

Cloudy, periods of rain ending this afternoon, high 41. Clearing tonight, slightly colder, low 32. Partly cloudy, breezy and cool tomorrow, high 43.

Rockefeller confirmation expected

WASHINGTON (UPI) — House Judiciary Committee sources said yesterday no more than 10 of the 38 committee members are expected to vote against vice presidential nominee Nelson A. Rockefeller when his confirmation comes before the panel today.

Rockefeller, who passed the half-way stage of his long confirmation fight when the Senate voted 90 to 7 Tuesday to approve his confirmation, faces his next-to-last hurdle when committee meets at 10:30 a.m. EST for a debate and vote on his nomination.

If the nomination is voted by the House committee today as scheduled, the final vote, by the full House, will probably come next week. Sources predicted only about 10 committee members would oppose Rockefeller.

A vote to confirm will end four months of investigation, hearings and controversy on the man selected by President Ford shortly after taking office last summer.

The House committee today is expected to hold a brief debate in open session, and then vote by roll call on Rockefeller's nomination.

Meanwhile, Rep. Joshua Eilberg, D-Pa., released a written reply from Rockefeller to questions the congressman had raised during the hearings about the loan of the Rockefeller family airplane for Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's honeymoon trip to Acapulco, Mexico.

Eilberg had questioned why no gift tax was paid on the cost of making the plane available for March 30.

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